THE MISSIONARY

HERALD

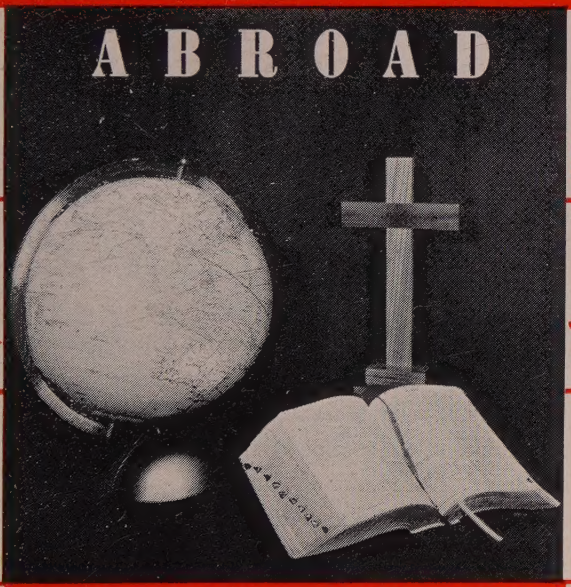
AT HOME AND ABROAD

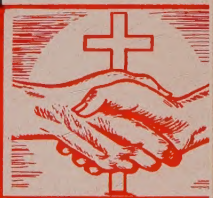
PILGRIM FRONTIER

EDITION

JUNE 1948

Our Christian World Mission





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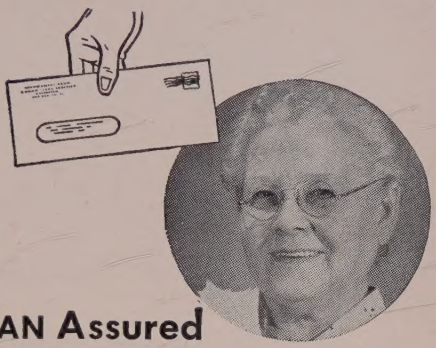

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THE MISSIONARY HERALD

AT HOME AND ABROAD

Vol. CXLIV JUNE, 1948 No. 5

Due to the compositors' strike, it was impossible to publish our regular May issue.

Editor: ANDREW VANCE MCCRACKEN

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"To All Who Care About Tomorrow"

Christians are not anxious about tomorrow — but they are greatly concerned. Tomorrow is the day when nothing has yet happened — and in which anything can happen. God permits us to exercise free will. We are able, therefore, to exercise control over what happens tomorrow. The future rests largely in our hands.

POWER AND FREEDOM

Two struggles have been going on among men for ages and seem now to have reached a climax. The outcome will determine the shape of tomorrow. The one is a struggle for power. The other is a struggle for freedom. Today — in all parts of our world, as the articles in this issue of *The Missionary Herald* make clear — these two drives and forces are contending side by side.

But — and this we forget — freedom without power is impotent, while power without freedom is a fraud. Man needs power to survive; but he needs freedom to make survival worthwhile. But freedom requires moral constraint. For Christians this is provided in Jesus Christ. Faith in him gives us the freedom of the outward universe and freedom within ourselves because, at the same time, "the love of Christ constraineth us." Christianity is, therefore, the point at which man's struggle for power and the struggle for freedom come together in creative and redemptive love.

And the Christian missionary movement has been and must always be the chief spearhead of the battle for spiritual, social and political liberty among people who are gaining, or desire to gain freedom from poverty and disease, liberation from

doubts and fears, deliverance from ignorance and superstition, and release from all inner and outward tyrannies — to live as emancipated souls in the truth of the gospel which alone makes men free.

OUR FOREIGN POLICY

The United States of America is the most powerful nation in the world today. We are globally great. And in the United States resides a large body of individuals who not only know their way around in a nation so highly organized and so powerful, but who cherish the notion that Christian faith and action are indispensable in the shaping of a better tomorrow for the world — and ourselves. Such a combination of faith and power can make America supremely great — and Christian. Such greatness must stem from our churches. They are its primary source.

What then shall be the foreign policy of our churches? That is — what shall be the status of world missions? The churches and their missionaries must take their place where international relationships are of primary concern. Politics builds up power and, in democracy, brings and guarantees external freedom. But the missionary and the Christian churches translate power into love, and pour it out in behalf of beleaguered and frustrated people: translating external freedom into freedom of the soul.

Nearly one hundred years ago a man named Marx issued a manifesto: "Workers of the world unite: you have nothing to lose but your chains." Many people of many lands who care about tomorrow or who are afraid of tomorrow are turning — in faith or from sheer despair — to that desperate call.

OUR CHRISTIAN WORLD MISSION

Today, the Christians of the major denominations of the United States and Canada — who care for tomorrow with the concern of Jesus Christ and who care for it enough to challenge the Marxist movement with one which reaches deeper, goes farther and offers infinitely more — are united in a daring, forward-looking, unified Program of Advance — at home and abroad.

This program is the result of months of mutually constructive thinking and planning — under the auspices of the Foreign Missions Conference, the Home Missions Council, and the leadership of the supporting denominations. Never before has Protestantism been united in such a comprehensive and cooperative undertaking. In this issue of *The Missionary Herald* we present no more than the foreign needs and emergencies of the Program of Advance.

Of all Protestant groups, we Congregational Christians, because of our tradition of independence and our historic concern for a free society, face in this Program of Advance one of our most significant opportunities — to set free the hearts of people from congealing fear, to unloose energies held in bonds, to open vistas of hope to millions, to strike off the chains of ignorance and superstition, and to make available the liberating gospel of Christ to eager hearts and hands.

Generous and sacrificial support of this program is the way in which genuine concern for tomorrow translates itself into creative and Christian action. An apathetic and improvident aloofness to the needs and opportunities presented in the Program of Advance shall merit the censure of history and the judgment of God.

Our Christian World Mission

ABROAD millions throughout the world are praying for the freedom with which Christ has made man free. Do we care?

FRED FIELD GOODSELL

In our day multitudes are being stabbed awake by the course of events — local, national and international. Everywhere the terror and splendor of life are being revealed anew.

We are waking to the fact that our world, for good or for ill, is in reality one world in its inter-relatedness, in its need of spiritual renewal, and in the basic aspiration of the people, if not the leaders of every country, for peace with justice.

ONE ADEQUATE ANSWER

We must also awaken to the fact that there is only one adequate answer to the problems of international goodwill and of thorough-going spiritual renewal, without which our basic aspiration for peace with justice will surely be frustrated. That one answer is found in Jesus Christ — in the breadth and depth of his personality. One world in Christ — a world in which the kingdom of God will be progressively realized among men — is the goal to which we must solemnly rededicate ourselves in the new era of atomic power.

When we look at humanity through the eyes of Christ, and not through the blurring fog of power politics, we are moved with compassion akin to that of the compassionate Savior himself. This feeling is all the more poignant because we see how sin in its various guises today has made havoc of individual lives, of communities, and of the world community.

Our Christian World Mission sets as its goal *One World in Christ*. This is not the slogan of a passing moment. It is not spiritual imperialism. It is not based upon enlightened self-interest. It is not for the self-glorification of a church, or of any organization within a church. Such phrases point to motives and moods utterly unworthy of the kingdom of God which Jesus bids us to seek first. The church of Christ is called and Christians are commissioned to seek that kingdom constantly throughout history and unreservedly on all the frontiers of life. In our day every life and every act count for good or for ill.

THE TASK OF THE CHURCHES

Our Christian colleagues from forty lands, meeting at Whitby in Canada in July 1947, dared to say: "Although the church has a life of its own, it touches at every point the life of the world and cannot disassociate itself from it, even if it would. As Christ made himself one with the life of humanity in every aspect save that

of sin, so the church is called to share and to look with compassion on those weaknesses, miseries and desolations of the world which it has been sent to heal."

The basic overtones of the New Testament do not sound strange in our world-attuned ears: "There is one God and Father of all." "Ye shall be my witnesses — unto the uttermost parts of the earth." "Ye are members one of another." "God so loved the world . . . " "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature."

Evangelical Christian churches today have became a world-wide fellowship. This fellowship is "the great new fact of our time." One might make bold to say that it is of more significance than the discovery of atomic power. Deep gratitude wells up within us as we think of Christian leaders in well nigh every land on this planet who are alert to the present crisis in human affairs and who live and move with an increased sense of partnership with God and with their fellow Christians everywhere.

We of the Congregational Christian churches of the United States are in step with a great body of Christian people — through the Foreign Missions Conference of North America — marching forward under the banner of *One World in Christ.*

We Congregational Christians have defined our specific objectives: A minimum quota of 450 missionaries,

Congregational Christian Missions Abroad

1948

We Congregational Christians maintain, under the auspices of our American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, fifteen missions. They are located in the Near East, India, the Philippines and Micronesia, Africa, China, Japan, Mexico and France.

There are 411 missionary doctors, teachers, ministers and social workers at work in these fifteen missions. With them stand 6,236 co-workers — Christian nationals — who are the leaders of the indigenous churches of our missions. These workers minister to an overseas parish of 16,000,000 people.

This total enterprise needs your interest, your prayers, your support. Never has the church of Christ faced so great an opportunity. Contribute generously to the benevolences of your local church. Make an individual gift. Give sacrificially to the Postwar Emergency Program of our Congregational Christian churches. The American Board shares in this program.

THE AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS

14 Beacon Street, Boston 8, Massachusetts

including social security for those who have retired after many years of service; increased emphasis upon the training of national Christian leaders; development of cooperative enterprises and union institutions; and more adequate support for all constructive agencies, including medical service. In all these lines of effort the day of the pioneer and trail blazer is not over.

NEW MISSIONARIES

During the last two years our American Board for Foreign Missions has commissioned and sent to the field 120 new missionaries, bringing our total staff as of June 1, 1948, to 411. Yet national Christian leaders in all our fields are calling for more American colleagues. It has been carefully estimated that 450 missionaries — active and with proper replacements as some retire or withdraw — represent the minimum American personnel needed now as our part of the Christian world mission abroad.

The acceptance of increased responsibility by national Christian leaders in all our fields wins the admiration of all who realize what it means. In a word, it means that the church has struck root.

TRAINING OF NATIONALS

But the greatest task of the missionary has always been and continues to be the training of such leaders. Our plans for the immediate future call for increased emphasis upon this task and a substantial increase in budgets which may provide greater facilities for the training and development of national Christian leaders. Those who come into contact with men like Lootfy Levonian of the Near East, Baskar Hivale of India, Ping Heng Wang of China, Proculo Rodriguez of the Philippines, Ariam Paramasamy of Ceylon, Chief Luthuli of South Africa, and many others of like kind, grow enthusiastic about the quality of our national Christian leadership abroad.

An increasing amount of our resources in personnel and funds must be used in cooperative or union institutions. The well-worn slogan, "The world is too much for a divided church," is as contemporary as today's newspaper headlines. Outstanding examples of institutions in which several denominations cooperate, and for which we eagerly seek increased help are: Vellore Medical School of India, Yenching University of China, Silliman University with its College of Theology in the Philippines, Adams College in Zululand, and the Near East School of Theology at Beirut, Lebanon. These vital institutions are indispensable as centers of the Christian movement in their areas.

THE ADVANCE PROGRAM

One day, on the campus of Adams College, I met Paramount Chief Mysheni of the Zulu people. After a few words of friendly conversation he remarked: (and his words apply essentially to all of our fields) — "May I say something to you as a representative of the Christian people of America? We Bantu people here in South Africa are very conscious of the blessings we have received from God through you. We know that you are committed to the welfare of mankind including us blacks. We know that you believe in democracy and that you cling to the ideal of freedom from race prejudice. I am here today on this campus to voice the gratitude of the Zulu people for America and what it stands for. But let me plead with you to stand firm and to carry forward your world-wide Christian crusade for justice and righteousness and peace. Africa is bursting with ambition. We are on the eve of omi-

SUMMARY OF OBJECTIVES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Our Christian World Mission — Abroad 1949 – 1950

	1949	1950	Non-recurring funds needed
A. Additional income needed to finance present program, made necessary largely because of increased costs of operation.....	$250,000	$250,000	
B. Additional income needed to finance Program of Advance.			
1. Maintaining our missionaries, including ministers, teachers, physicians, nurses, writers, business agents, social workers — all American personnel..... From 348 missionaries in November 1946 to 450 missionaries in November 1950	66,800	87,000	
In addition to the cost of supporting our missionaries including recruits, funds must be available for some new residences for missionaries, major repairs on existing residences and for automobiles for touring missionaries.			$171,000
2. Developing national leadership of all types.	64,000	77,500	
Scholarships for students in training on fields.			
Fellowships in USA and elsewhere for outstanding national Christian leaders.			
National leadership — aid in support of key personnel.			
Committee on Friendly Relations with Foreign Students in U.S.A.			
3. Sharing in union enterprises	26,825	28,575	258,000
The Board cooperates with various bodies in an increasing number of interdenominational enterprises. They include medical, general educational, theological, agricultural, industrial and other institutions and enterprises.			
4. Aiding churches and social agencies	129,900	147,200	911,500
This category includes temporary aid to schools, churches, groups of churches and other social agencies.			
5. Providing in full for retirement	50,000	50,000	100,000
Allowances for missionaries, apart from current budgets.			
6. Sustaining medical work in all fields	24,300	26,800	122,500
7. Union and special enterprises of major importance now. In the wake of World War II new demands are made for well established schools and colleges as for a few new institutions, for example, Ahmednagar College, Christian University in Japan, Nagpada Neighborhood House in Bombay.	60,000	60,000	250,000
8. Capital Funds:			
Retirement Fund			2,000,000
Medical Fund			1,000,000
Education Fund			1,000,000
Totals	$671,825	$727,675	$5,813,000
GRAND TOTAL			$7,212,500

nous events and developments. Only the spirit of Christ, as expressed through such institutions as Adams College and our Zulu churches, can be the power which will save us from despair and destruction."

This vivid plea of Chief Mysheni brought to my mind the recent classic dictum of Dr. John R. Mott to the Prudential Committee of our American Board for Foreign Missions: "The American Board must do vastly more than it has already done or it has already done too much."

Dr. Goodsell is the executive vice-president of our American Board for Foreign Missions.

HOW THE AMERICAN BOARD OPERATES

THE PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE —
is made up of forty persons from twenty states and is the responsible administrative body between annual meetings. Approximately twenty of these forty members meet monthly.

AFRICA FIELD COMMITTEE
Chairman: Mrs. A. P. Guiles *Secretary*: Dr. J. A. Reuling
Supervision of three missions in Africa: Angola, Southern Rhodesia and South Africa

INDIA AND CEYLON FIELD COMMITTEE
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Supervision of Marathi and Madura Missions in India, and Ceylon Mission

CHINA FIELD COMMITTEE
Chairman: Rev. J. F. King *Secretary*: Dr. H. A. Matthews
Supervision of missions in North China, Fukien, Chaowu and Canton

JAPAN FIELD COMMITTEE
Chairman: Mrs. G. R. Wilson *Secretary*: Miss Alice E. Cary
Cooperation with Interboard Committee for work with Church of Christ in Japan

EUROPE AND NEAR EAST FIELD COMMITTEE
Chairman: Rev. R. N. Wilson *Secretary*: Miss M. E. Emerson
Supervision of work in Syria, Lebanon, Turkey, Greece, Bulgaria, France, Czechoslovakia, Spain

MEXICO, PHILIPPINE ISLANDS AND MICRONESIA FIELD COMMITTEE
Chairman: Rev. C. H. Kopf *Secretary*: Miss Alice E. Cary

RESEARCH DEPARTMENT
Chairman: Miss Edith Scamman *Secretary*: Miss Mary A. Walker
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Functional Administrative Sub-Committees: Finance, Appropriations, Candidates, Personnel, etc.

THE MISSIONS COUNCIL
is responsible for unified missionary education and promotion among Congregational Christian churches, including the publication of *The Missionary Herald* and Conference Editions. Albert D. Stauffacher, Minister and Executive Secretary.

NEAR EAST people are at a crossroads. What mission from the U.S. shall be strongest—the secular or Christian?

WILLIAM N. WYSHAM

Tension and fear prevail throughout the Near East today. Russia is the dark shadow on the north. Palestine, at the very heart of the area, is the arena of racial and religious conflicts of utmost bitterness. Vast oil reserves in the Near East add fuel to the fire.

And nowhere is the United States more deeply involved both politically and economically than in this strategic region — stretching all the way from Morocco to Iran and touching Arabs, Armenians, Turks, Iranians, Jews, Berbers, Assyrians and Kurds.

TENSION AND CONFLICT

The Near Eastern peoples are characterized today by an extreme and highly explosive nationalism, raised to fanatical heat by a resurgence of religious passion especially in the Arabic-speaking lands. And although, in some countries, Islam seems to have lost its purely spiritual power, its very nature lends itself to a religious stateism in which religious and other minorities are denied their social, economic and political rights.

Only in Iran is there still any reasonable liberty for a convert from Islam to Christianity; while in the Near East generally, to an extent perhaps greater than anywhere else in the world, he faces economic ruin, social ostracism and even physical peril if he openly confesses his faith in Jesus Christ.

There are signs, however, that Islamic lands are not entirely impervious to forces from outside. Current governments are becoming somewhat more alert to major needs. Efforts are being made at last to eliminate illiteracy, to improve education and sanitation, and of necessity to further a rapid industrialization. Women are beginning to strive for their rightful place in society and are achieving their social emancipation.

Hundreds of young men and women are studying abroad, especially along technical lines. Labor unions are being organized and are striving to realize their potentialities. There is in certain quarters a profound hatred of official corruption, and a determination to rebuild wholesome moral sanctions. And whatever forms the reconstruction of Islamic society may assume, Christianity, which alone can satisfy the spiritual yearnings, will be there to face its golden opportunity.

The unfolding task of Christian missions in the Near East is already quite plain. Their success in the past must not be measured statistically by the number of new churches

founded, but by their profound influence upon the older Eastern churches and upon Islam itself; by their medical and educational services; by their training of qualified leaders; by the great reservoirs of goodwill which they have constantly filled and refilled.

And if the present work of Christian missions is soon strengthened and new services are added as opportunity offers, the Near East will again become, as it was in the first centuries of the Christian era, a region throughout which the gospel of Jesus Christ is freely proclaimed, and where millions find in him the source of redemption and moral power.

Our various denominational mission boards are remarkably unanimous in their plans to develop their work in the Near East, especially in Moslem communities. It is no longer possible to stake everything upon the program of schools and hospitals. These special services have made a brilliant record but their foreign-controlled position in intensely nationalistic countries is increasingly precarious. Some mission schools have already been taken over by governments or have been drastically restricted in their Christian witness. American mission hospitals have an uncertain future. A new approach is, therefore, not only called for as a

Issues of life and death, with the future of world civilization at stake, have again become foremost in the Near East. A strong Christian movement is imperative. *Below*, a science laboratory in our American Collegiate Institute in Izmir, Turkey. Mrs. Lynda Goodsell Blake (left) is the class instructor.

progressive measure, but may prove to be the means for a continuance of their work.

The wide distribution of Christian literature is of outstanding importance in this development. Some of the projects already in mind, both for the individual mission boards and for inter-board operation, are:

1. The establishment of revolving funds to increase the volume of publication; 2. A more adequate support of existing periodicals and the founding of new ones; 3. The preparation of persuasive literature on the meaning and value of the Christian life; 4. Literature on the Christian home and family; 5. Literature adapted to the use of the newly literate; 6. Improved methods of distribution, such as bookshops, reading rooms, colporteurs, "book mobiles," and so on; 7. The training of writers for the literature program.

Closely associated with the above program is the literacy movement itself, which is making large strides, especially since the recent visits of Dr. Frank C. Laubach who, in 1947, worked in Egypt, Syria, Lebanon and Iran, with short trips to Iraq and Ethiopia. Dr. Laubach's efforts will be followed up in each of these countries, while similar literacy campaigns will be extended to areas not yet touched.

Schools, hospitals, literature and Christian friendship count much in the Near East. *Left,* a front view of the main building of our American School for Boys in Talas. Our Missionary, Dr. Lorrin A. Shepard, heads up the Admiral Bristol Hospital (*below*) which ministers to the people of Istanbul, Turkey.

Congregational Christian
NEEDS AND OBJECTIVES IN THE NEAR EAST
1949 – 1950

Issues of life and death, with the possible future of world civilization at stake, have again become foremost in the Near East from which have flowed for many ages the streams of spiritual culture.

This is the area where the ancient Christian churches have continued, with varying vitality and influence, and it is close to the very center of Islam. A strong Christian impact is of the utmost importance for the sake of the Christian enterprise itself, and for the sake of the influence of Christian principles upon the life of the area.

CHART FOR THE FUTURE

Our historic Congregational Christian work in the Near East, under the auspices of our American Board for Foreign Missions, falls into two categories.

1. In Greece, Lebanon, Syria and Bulgaria it is in the advanced fellowship stage, where American personnel works with pastors, teachers and other national leaders in our churches, schools, social centers and other organized activities.

2. In Turkey our work is in the pioneer stage. We have been active within Moslem groups for only twenty-five years. Here our schools, hospitals, clinics, publications and — above all — our friendly interpersonal relationships count most.

NEW MISSIONARIES

In the judgment of the Near East Mission and of our American Board for Foreign Missions, the present situation calls for advance through strengthening our position rather than by attempts to expand. Our most urgent need is for new missionary personnel. Several short-term appointees should be replaced by career personnel if our schools are to be adequately staffed.

BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT

Another urgent need is adequate buildings and equipment. Buildings have deteriorated in almost every station during the war. If our mission work and enterprises are to stand up and compare favorably with new governmental systems of education and other developing movements in the national culture, we must be adequately staffed and structured. A careful estimate makes clear that the sum of $300,000 is a minimum need for this development.

There are many opportunities for service in new centers, but in the judgment of our Near East Mission and the American Board for Foreign Missions such undertakings would be ill-advised until the present work and program can be strengthened.

New methods of direct evangelism are also in the planning, including such projects as:

1. New city evangelistic centers; 2. Hostels and social centers for students and other young people of student age; 3. Social service institutions, particularly for women and children; 4. Audio-visual programs with provision of new equipment; 5. More extensive coverage of rural areas; 6. Interchange of visits by Christian leaders between different Moslem communities and areas; 7. Conferences and summer institutes for various age groups; 8. Rural programs to include agriculture, animal husbandry, home life and religion.

Many projects in view aim to strengthen the churches themselves and their leadership. Thus the missions envisage:

1. Provision for more adequate places of worship; 2. Improved methods in church school and adult religious educational development; 3. Youth camps and summer institutes; 4. The cultivation of Christian family life upon sounder bases; 5. Generous scholarships for potential leaders to make possible further study both locally and abroad; 6. Specialized training for rural work.

ADVANCE IN EDUCATION

Standard methods of missionary service are still, however, the most effective; and plans for advance include their development both in scope and efficiency. In educational service it is planned to:

1. Increase the number of schools; 2. Provide new buildings and equipment for existing institutions; 3. Offer more scholarships abroad for outstanding teachers; 4. Develop more schools of a technical nature — nursing, teacher training, etc.

Medical missions have continuing opportunities for helping to increase the quota of public health. Many advances in this department are included in the new plans, such as:

1. Reopening of hospitals temporarily closed during the war; 2. Thorough modernization of plants and equipment; 3. Forward steps in extension work through clinics in rural areas; 4. A public health program of potentially unlimited scope.

NEW METHODS

New devices for missionary service and expression are made possible by various new instrumentalities: the automobile, where roads are now being improved; the literacy charts; the film, the phonograph, the radio and the loud-speaker multiply the eyes and ears which can be reached and thus enhance the effectiveness of our Christian message.

Most urgent, however, in the entire program of advance is the need for staff reinforcements in order that the plans for advance may be carried out. The projects briefly outlined above call for more than 100 new missionaries of the finest quality that our churches in the United States can produce. More than a satisfying and creative service awaits any volunteer for missionary effort in the Moslem lands, provided that he or she combines a passion for the gospel with a realization that the life-investment will not guarantee quick returns.

The task requires first a laying of sound foundations for a spiritual structure which in the decades and centuries to come may take shape among all the peoples of the Near or Middle East. For as Christ died and rose again that all might live, so we may share his redemptive sacrifice that, through him, one of the crucial areas of modern civilization may come again to freedom and truth.

Dr. Wyshdm is a secretary of the Home Base Department of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

Photos by courtesy of the American Board for Foreign Missions.

Continent of Contrasts

INDIA needs Christian aid and encouragement to make her new tomorrow a Christian day of growth through liberty

SUE WEDDELL

India and Pakistan are first page news today. These two nations, making up "the great sub-continent of Asia," are the home of four hundred million people — one fifth of the human race.

STRIFE AND BLOODSHED

Crucial events have brought them into history's foreground. Last year the Indian people achieved political independence, but the country was partitioned into two states to be known as India and Pakistan. Communal strife and mass bloodshed followed immediately, with the added displacement of ten million human beings who crossed the border from Moslem into Hindu territory, or *vice versa,* setting up a vicious chain of disease, malnutrition and unemployment.

The tragic death of Mahatma Gandhi may have social, economic and political effects unpredictably grave. The spontaneous joy over independence was turned to profound sadness, and the dependence upon their spiritual leader for guidance in all affairs has been replaced by a sobering realization that responsibility now lies with the people themselves for creating a new national existence. And this is complicated by the rapid rise of mass production industry, by the shifting of population from rural to urban centers, and by the return of service men in large numbers to a village life that they have been taught to leave behind.

These developments, with their broader implications upon a global scale, constitute a new and stirring challenge to the Christian movement, both in India and Pakistan. The Christian churches, reassured by the inclusion of religious freedom in India's charter of human rights, are now in a position to play a leading part in the life of both nations. Christian leadership is frankly counted upon to make a significant contribution to social, medical, educational and economic advance, and to help provide competent individuals for government positions.

THE DOOR IS OPEN

Christian service to refugees, with its ministry of reconciliation, has won profound gratitude. And the door is open as never before to the entrance of Christ into the minds and hearts of India's people.

Yet, Christianity remains a "minority" religion in India and Pakistan. The responsibility for evangelizing these nations rests upon a group of only eight or nine million Christians.

Generous support from the world churches is necessary if these sister churches are to move courageously forward.

Advance is called for along three main lines: to strengthen the inner life of the churches; to extend the Christian witness; and to enlarge our Christian services to the communities.

STRENGTHENING THE CHURCHES

The churches need strengthening at nearly every point. Christian individuals and groups must experience a deepening of the spiritual life, while greater emphasis needs to be laid upon biblical faith and upon public worship through forms that are indigenous to the people.

Larger stress should also be placed upon Christian stewardship, upon religious education and upon intensive personal evangelism. Certain primitive tribes are still unreached by the gospel. The intelligentsia in each community can be approached on a high intellectual level, so also can students and young people in business and industry who are seeking new light to clear up their many confusions.

QUALIFIED LEADERS

Inherent in every detail of this comprehensive program is the need for capable leaders. Where nationalism has become dominant, and plans for public welfare are being inaugurated under government auspices, carefully chosen and highly qualified Indian personalities must be prepared for presenting Christ's redemptive message for the potentially creative years ahead. Industry, agriculture, education, journalism and cultural leadership all call for specialists in greater numbers than now exist and with far better equipment than at present. The Christian churches can supply leaders for many of their own hospitals and colleges. But competent leaders are required also for the enlarged services and projects which call for specific preparation and which cannot move forward until there are those with proper preparation to perform them.

SPECIFIC LINES OF ADVANCE

1. *Seeing the village as a whole.* A program mapped out in 1947, in cooperation with the Economic Committee of the National Christian Council and with rural leaders gathered at Allahabad Agricultural Institute, calls for fourteen Christian Rural Service and Training Centers in the different language regions. These will prepare personnel for a ministry on the three-fold level of body, mind and spirit.

Carefully trained men and women will start work in the villages, not only as experts in agriculture, but also for the development of homes and family life, of village industries, of personal and public health measures, of recreation for young people, of community organization, of religious education, and of private and group worship.

Three hundred missionaries will be called for within ten years to staff these Indian centers, together with enlarged support for such an institution as Allahabad which is the recognized focus for advanced preparation in modern agriculture, home economics and rural reconstruction.

2. *The particular needs of cities.* Growing industrial areas deserve particular attention. People are moving in droves from villages to cities where they are immediately confronted by a complex and unfamiliar way of life. Returned service men are often unable to achieve readjustment.

Christian centers and institutional churches, equipped for social services, are in great demand — with clubs, clinics, day nurseries, libraries, hostels and other features. A work of this sort has been started at Worli, Bombay; similar projects are proposed for Ahmedabad, Cawnpore, Calcutta, Lahore and Lucknow.

Top, center, central building of Madras Christian College. *Above,* our Dr. Holmes and vice-principal Chelliah, Jaffna College. *Right,* baptismal service.

Left, one of our outstanding nationals in India is the Rev. Samuel Devapragasam who supervises evangelistic work in a large area. *Above,* literacy program of Frank Laubach is opening avenues to Christian knowledge.

Above, S. Kulandran is now one of the bishops of the Church of South India. *Left*, a Sunday School class. *Below*, building a much needed church in Ceylon.

ıt of America's vast store can go enough
lp to make India's tomorrow a day of new
owth through independence. *Above*, a girl
ırns to weave mats and earn her own liv-
ı at the Women's Industrial Home, India.

Congregational Christian
NEEDS AND OBJECTIVES IN INDIA
1949 – 1950

INDIAN LEADERS IN FREE INDIA

Christian Indian ministers, teachers and doctors should be as competent as our missionaries or government employees and leaders in public affairs and private business.

We must give these Christian workers the best education available in India and we must bring those of outstanding promise to the United States for advanced study, and for contact with our churches here.

In addition, it is often necessary to provide part of the support of these Christian leaders and their families. For these undertakings, $9,500 will be needed in 1949 and $13,000 in 1950.

UNITED CHURCHES

One million Christians in South India are joined in a single body, the Church of South India — including those of Congregational Christians, Anglican, Methodist and Presbyterian affiliation.

Through our Madura and Jaffna dioceses, we share in the Church of South India and, through our Marathi Mission, we share in the United Church of North India.

To do our part in this united work, we need $7,500 in 1949 and in 1950, and $42,000 for non-recurring grants.

UNION INSTITUTIONS AND MEDICAL WORK

Five magnificent cooperative enterprises, respected far and wide for the quality of their work, are: (1) the National Christian Council; (2) the Vellore Medical College; (3) the Woman's Christian College; (4) St. Christopher's Training College in Madras; and (5) the United Theological College in Bangalore.

These institutions are outstanding illustrations of united Christian effort, and they provide well trained leadership for our churches. To strengthen these institutions the American Board for Foreign Missions requires $4,500 in 1949, $5,000 in 1950, and $101,000 for non-recurring grants.

NEW ENTERPRISES

A new college for men has been established in Ahmednagar, and one for women is being started in Madras — both on Indian initiative. The well-known Allahabad Agricultural College must expand its program.

The Nagpada Neighborhood House in Bombay must be strengthened. All these institutions are symptomatic of Christian vitality in India and they, in turn add vitality to the Indian churches.

For these enterprises, $10,000 is needed in 1949 and in 1950, and $50,000 will be required for non-recurring grants.

3. *Toward a higher standard of living.* Widespread poverty presents a desperate challenge. Christian cooperatives, small scale village industries and goodwill industries in the cities are absolutely necessary.

The United Presbyterian Church in Pakistan is undertaking to teach 60,000 dispossessed Christians the simple basic skills and crafts that will not only provide a livelihood but will lift the general scale of existence. The Technical Services Association, a large-scale organization conducted with government cooperation, is also pioneering in this direction.

4. *The ministry of healing.* Medical services are a crying need to augment national and provincial health programs. Three medical schools are now proposed as bases for public health training and extension service. Cooperative public health projects are urged, such as a mobile unit for mass X-ray tuberculosis surveys, a campaign for mosquito eradication and a program of general sanitation. The Christian Medical Association of India, the medical arm of the National Christian Council, requires additional personnel.

VELLORE MEDICAL COLLEGE

Vellore Christian Medical College, in its thirtieth year, is in a strategic position to train physicians, both men and women, and to prepare specialists in the treatment of leprosy, tuberculosis and mental diseases. But full operation of this great medical center must wait for increased funds to provide buildings, equipment and the costs of maintenance.

5. *Capturing Youth for Christian service.* The youth of India and Pakistan are stirred by patriotic fervor. Political independence has brought new hope. Returned service men, supplied with modern training, are seeking opportunities for life service. This is the time to direct Christian youth for Christian work and witness.

But to do this adequately will call for a more adequate youth-work budget in the National Christian Council. For it will involve constant secretarial leadership and full time youth workers in every mission and church organization. It will include full-scale cooperation with such youth agencies as the Y.M.C.A. and the Y.W.C.A., the India Sunday School Union and the Student Christian Movement. It will necessitate the vigorous promotion of an All-India Student Volunteer Movement and a much stronger emphasis upon student evangelism than has been known in recent times.

6. *The home is the foundation.* The cornerstone of any Christian church or society is the well-constituted Christian family. It is worthy of note, therefore, that the Christian Home Movement has grown markedly in India, even though there still is room for great expansion. The indigenous "Christian Home Festival" could be more widely observed. The *Christian Home Bulletin* merits better support and should have a wider circulation.

All the missions and churches of India are being urged to provide workers with special training in home and family relations. Literature, pictures, films and the radio can be utilized inspirationally. And the National Christian Council needs one full-time secretary to concentrate upon this fundamental aspect of our total work.

India is looking more and more to North America. Denominationally and cooperatively we are called upon to share with other Christians in helping a great people — the people of India — to find their place in history as part of the vanguard of advancing mankind.

Miss Weddell is a secretary of the India Committee of the Foreign Missions Conference of North America.

Photos by F. Gordon and by courtesy of the American Board for Foreign Missions.

A People — Stirred and Aroused

AFRICA is one keystone in the arch of whatever shape the structure of tomorrow assumes. Will it be Christian?

EMORY ROSS

Christianity has been the great force to open, stir and arouse Africa. Africa now is thoroughly opened, and considerably stirred and aroused.

Other forces are also powerful in Africa today. They can use and profit by the hopes and visions, the education and the "know-how" which have been largely developed by the Christian religion and its broad beginnings in the education of head and hand and heart.

Some of these other forces are far from Christian. They are even in open conflict with Christianity. So again we see, this time in Africa, that Christianity has either done too much, or it has not done enough.

MORE CHRISTIANITY

History testifies that true Christianity can never do too much — but that frequently, in its 2,000 years, it has not done enough. This is so in Africa. It has begun, and done well — better than any other power at work in Africa. But it has not done enough!

It has stirred more hearts and lifted more hopes than any other force in Africa. It has probably fulfilled more of its promises than any other element or influence in the life of the past three or four generations.

But here is a stubborn fact: enough individual foreign Christians, and the presumably Christian society from the West, have failed to such degree to fulfill Christianity's promises as to add heavily to the confusion, frustration and bitterness which currently grips much of Africa. From nearly every part of the continent come such reports.

THE BATTLE OF IDEAS

For Christianity preached but not practiced means fission — human fission — the most dangerous thing in the world. Christianity preached and practiced is the most powerful cohesive known among men. We speak today of the battle of ideologies. Africa is being inwardly torn in that conflict, as is the rest of the world. The Christian Church has a grave double responsibility in having helped to involve Africans, and many other peoples, in that battle.

First, it has introduced Christianity among them, with all its beauty, ideals and promise — the fairest vista man has seen. Then, Christians' failures to practice and live Christianity to the full have armed the Godless ideologies of our day with pirated ideals of which they blatantly promise immediate, certain and exclusive fulfill-

Congregational Christian
NEEDS AND OBJECTIVES IN AFRICA
1949 – 1950

STRENGTHENING THE CHURCHES

There are vigorous and self-supporting churches in Southern Rhodesia, Angola and South Africa. These churches are playing a decisive role in Africa's tomorrow.

But the growth of these churches and the demands made upon them today make necessary two things: (1) an increase in the number of trained African leaders; and (2) a raising of the standards of service and leadership. The Africans need our help to achieve these objectives.

To help train pastors, teachers and lay leaders for our churches in Africa requires an annual increase in expenditures of $13,000.

EVANGELISM

Evangelism is the central task of our churches. It represents the major opportunity of our churches in Africa. Pastors and lay evangelists need and cherish the counsel of missionary colleagues.

We must provide the advice and fellowship of sympathetic missionary personnel to the stalwart and eager African evangelists — both pastors and lay workers.

This program of evangelism requires an annual increase of $16,000.

MEDICAL PROGRAM

Our medical services in South Africa, including the salaries of missionary personnel, have received full local support.

But in East and West Africa, our American Board for Foreign Missions must continue and enlarge our program of training nurses and our services of therapy.

This program will require an annual increase of $6,000.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Social conditions are such throughout Africa that an intensive attack upon some basic problems is of immediate necessity.

Village training centers, rural social work, agricultural demonstration programs should all be started — even on a modest scale — to make possible an advance toward Christian ways of living. For essential undertakings in this field our three African missions require annually $27,000.

NON-RECURRING CAPITAL FUND

For the rehabilitation of our schools, missionary residences, hospitals and demonstration centers — and for the new facilities and equipment required — our Africa missions ask for the sum of $353,000.

Top, one of our schools in our West Central Africa mission. *Circle*, Bede Samongo, East African evangelist, with his family. *Top, center*, the School of Music Building, Adams College, So. Africa. *Above*, a class of boys making rope, Portuguese E. Africa.

ment. Those promises are being made to Africans of every group, and are attracting many.

Christians solely can fully live Christianity and thereby redeem its unique promises to man. Bitter proofs in 2,000 years have shown that no one else is able. Secularists cannot; Nazis, Fascists, Communists cannot; none can but Christians. Africa in the next few years will need more Christians preaching and practicing Christianity than ever before — if it is not to become a scene and source of the bitter world struggle for power.

The Program of Advance, as proposed by the major Protestant denominations, pledges North American Christian cooperation with Christian Africa beyond anything yet accomplished. Its sole aim is to aid Africans to fulfill in their own transformed lives the promises made in Christ to every man. Its methods will be multiplied.

To begin with: *literacy*. Frank C. Laubach, supported by the American Board for Foreign Missions, is spending a year in African literacy, aiding churches, missions, tribal authorities and governments. He and his aides will have visited a dozen African territories, prepared literacy charts in more than fifty African languages by next July. At least forty-five tons of paper will have made several million pages of the most up-to-date Christian literature for the newly literate.

Above, charter members of the new church at Chisumbanje. Work was begun here five years ago. Today the church is strong and vital.

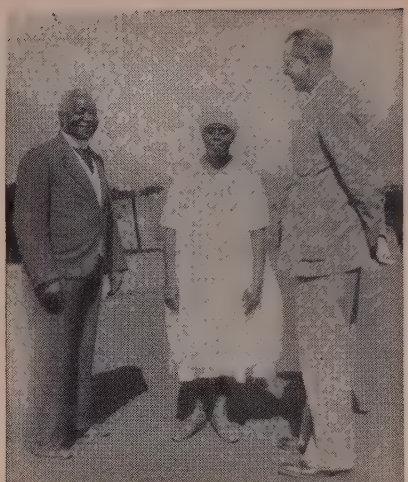
Top, grass-thatched huts of a typical village in N. Rhodesia. *Circle,* baby clinic day at our Alexandra Health Center, So. Africa.

Some $50,000 will have gone directly into literacy work — a mere beginning, but a hopeful one, in the Advance Program's literacy efforts.

Then, *education.* Missions have been everywhere the pioneers. But the Advance Program means missions' widened schooling — more in primary, secondary and technical training; plus a quickened up-grading — high schools, normals, colleges, leading to universities, professional schools, postgraduate studies, research and its applications. Some governments are moving steadily in this. Some have scarcely begun. Throughout the continent as in many other parts of the world there appears to be a kind of dynamic relationship between Protestant Christianity and the advancement of mass education. Such dynamism Africa needs.

It also needs the cohesion of practiced Christianity in its hundreds of thousands of *rural communities.* Some have such beginnings but most do not. Animism, the traditional and universal control of African society, is losing out. Christianity must win in Africa or Africa may become chaos. The Advance Program demands the spread of Christian rural training and service centers.

Medicine and public health, diet and agriculture, also. Governments now do more than before. But the population grows, and the demands — physical and intellectual — increase.



Dr. John A. Reuling, African secretary for our American Board, visits one of our pastors and his wife. Latter is also a trained nurse.

These can never be even approximately met when food is low, agriculture ineffective, general health poor and medical service unavailable. There can be no secure advance today without increased witness of Christ's healing ministry and of his concern for the whole good of the whole man.

Printing facilities are a bottleneck — so much more literature is demanded for Africa's needs. About ten new or enlarged plants are now developing. The biggest new cooperative Protestant undertaking in Africa, south of the Sahara, is the union press and distributing center at Leopoldville.

There is especially urgent need for more evangelical and general literature in Portuguese Africa. Cooperative use of $400,000 in Africa in the next five years for the production and use of the right literature would be a strategic use of money.

Mass evangelism and the spread of Christian living can be strikingly aided by means until now little used: motion pictures, film strips, broadcasting, and records played over village public address systems. These methods, in both fixed installations and mobile units, are sufficiently proven by government experiments and mission try-outs to warrant major steps. A coordinated program — equipment, stock, production, libraries, distributing centers, transportation, personnel — should have, for Central Africa alone, not less than half-a-million dollars for the first five years, and probably a minimum of $80,000 a year thereafter.

The Advance Program cooperatively proposes other definite projects also, all over Africa. They are having the careful study of North American boards, of European boards working in Africa, of missions, churches and Christian Councils throughout Africa and Madagascar.

But here is a bedrock calculation. All Christian Africans are deeply religious. Their traditional religion, animism, is on its way out. Millions of Africans have turned to Christianity. They want what it promises, what it has in part fulfilled. Other forces enter and confidently promise immediate, complete fulfillment. Eager Africans, confused, are attracted. Christianity's appeal is weakened partly because its solid work is short-staffed and under-funded; partly because its progress to many appears fitful, piecemeal, disjointed.

CONSTRUCTIVE ADVANCE

The Christian Advance Program is the most serious collective planning ever done by Christians in Africa. Its support and execution can make all the difference between Christianity's regression in Africa and its winning the hearts and undefeatable loyalty of the African people.

Dr. Ross is a secretary for Africa of the Foreign Missions Conference of North America.

Photos by courtesy of the American Board for Foreign Missions.

PILGRIM FRONTIER

Edition

Conference of Southern California and the Southwest

GREETING TO THE CONFERENCE

First Church, Los Angeles, esteems it a privilege to entertain the Conference and purposes to be a gracious host. Our facilities of plant and personnel should mean much more to the Conference than they do. We are pleased to put them at the disposal of the area fellowship for the two days, at least.

We hope the meeting may be outstanding, fresh, different, provocative, stimulating, inspirational — not the usual, traditional, commonplace sort of thing we habitually have.

My colleague, Rev. Hudson H. Pittman, is our minister in charge of this occasion. He will have matters well in hand. Our women are planning some pleasant touches of hospitality. Our choir will sing.

The world situation is serious. However well we may think we have done, it hasn't been well enough, nor nearly so. My colleagues in our Staff Ministry and the officers and members of First Church, Los Angeles, hope and pray the Conference may be spiritually memorable.

REV. JAMES W. FIFIELD, JR.

SIXTY-SECOND ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The First Congregational Church of Los Angeles will be host to the sixty-second annual meeting of our Conference, beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 11, and concluding with the annual banquet on Wednesday evening, May 12.

The general theme of the conference chaplain, the Rev. C. Eugene Sill, will be "A More Perfect Union." Dr. Truman Douglass, Executive Vice President of The Board of Home Missions, will be a guest speaker, as will Miss Florence C. Malcolm of the West Africa Mission, of The American Board.

Chaplain Harold Wilke, of the Winter General Hospital, Topeka, Kansas, will give two addresses on "New Ideas in Human Relations" and "The Modern Search for the Grail."

The Rev. James Hamilton Lash, Hollywood, will preach the conference sermon, "A Continual Incarnation."

The full program, in the final stages of completion at this writing, should be in your hands when this is read. Many outstanding speakers, together with seminars and symposiums, a communion service and a session devoted to a consideration of the merger, held in First Church with its excellent facilities for such a meeting, make this an event which should draw many people from all areas of our Conference.

Interesting Facts About The Churches In Our Conference

From the annual reports sent in by our churches in January, destined to appear in the *Congregational Yearbook,* some facts appear which should be of general interest to our people.

Church Members

There are 139 active churches within our conference area which comprises the south half of California, Arizona, New Mexico, El Paso County, Texas, and Las Vegas, Nevada.

On January 1 these churches had a membership of 42,761, a gain of 906 over the preceding year. Members received on confession of faith were distributed as follows: 64 churches received 9 or fewer; 27 churches received 10-24; 21, 25-49; 4, 50-99; 1, 100 or more; 15, none.

The families which make up the constituency of our churches total 35,838. Probably 100,000 individuals are ministered to by our churches.

The size of our churches is as follows: one had 9 or less members; 15 have 10-49 members; 27, 50-99 members; 49, 100-249 members; 13, 500-999 members; 10, 1,000 or more members.

Members by Associations

The number of churches and the total number of church members in our six associations are as follows:

New Mexico-El Paso Association: 11 churches; 1,159 members.

Kern Association: 10, 1,753.

Arizona Association; 10, 1,869.

San Bernardino Association: 20, 4,626.

San Diego Association: 21, 5,392.

Los Angeles Association: 67, 27,-962.

Church School and Youth

The church school enrollment for 1947 was 21,126, an increase of 1,875 over 1946. Last year twenty-nine weekday church schools, with 2,359 enrolled, and fifty-five church vacation schools, with 4,061 enrolled, were held in our conference. One hundred and twleve churches reported organized youth activities in which a total of 8,348 young people participated.

Church Attendances

The average church attendance for the eighty-nine churches which reported this item was 159.

The average minister's salary in our conference, judged by the 126 churches which reported, is $3,270.87.

Home Expenses

Home expenses of the churches making up our conference totalled for 1947 the sum of $1,129,910, an increase of nearly $100,000 over 1946, while the value of church property, now listed as $8,327,914, is more than a million dollars' increase over the preceding year. Eighty-eight churches reported an expenditure of $509,397 for new buildings and improvements.

Benevolences

A comparison of benevolent and missionary giving in 1946 and 1947 reveals some increases and some decreases, as follows:

Conference: $74,047; $83,703.
American Board: $43,640; $35,562.
Home Boards: $22,163; $24,738.
Unbudgeted: $11,828; $12,449.
Total: $151,678; $156,452.
Other Gifts: $174,211; $161,684.
Grand Total: $325,889; $318,136.

"The Church Extension Crusade" By The Conference Moderator

I am amazed, as I have become thoroughly acquainted with the work of our Conference, how many communities welcome us to serve them, and how many seem desirous of our type of open-minded, inclusive community church program. We are trusted completely by the comity commissions of the entire Conference area and opportunities are continually knocking at our door, by allocation and direct expression of communities. We have been asked to establish new non-competitive churches in more than twenty areas where we have not yet ventured.

Too, I am depressed by the fact that we are so restrained by available financial resources that we are unable to assume our rightful place among the major denominations in carrying the Christian message and witness into our proportionate shares of these areas. What can we as Congregational Christians do? Rather, what will we do?

Some years ago we saw that there was a growing need and the opportunity for growth throughout the Conference. We saw the establishment of many new homes and an expanding population. We of this Southwest have grown in population as no other vast section of the United States.

But, frankly, our church growth has not been commensurate with the opportunity. About four years ago we, as a Conference, voted to raise a fund of $100,000 for the establishment of new churches. To date $62,174.54 has been received in cash. We have additional pledges amounting to $13,833.20. Thus, $76,057.74 has been subscribed toward the total. These funds have already been put to work. Eight new church projects have been aided by them. We are now endeavoring to obtain the remaining $23,942.26 before the meeting of the Conference May 11. How can we do it?

"Extension Crusade Sunday"

First, it is hoped that many of you, as individuals, will be so desirous to expand our services that you will send a contribution directly to the Conference office (your church will receive credit).

Second, we are appealing to each church and minister to observe Sunday, May 2, as "Extension Crusade Sunday" (this by Conference board action) and that each church assume responsibility for a reasonable share of the balance so badly needed. If each church will contribute through a special offering sufficient to bring its total giving up to the suggested goal, we can raise the entire amount. The Conference office will gladly furnish data on your gifts thus far, also brochures and envelopes for your church use.

Let us all do all that we can to guarantee that our Congregational Christian witness will burn more brightly as new church candles are added to our fellowship. You and your church can brighten the witness or impede the Kingdom work. Together we will, by the grace of God, "lengthen the cords and strengthen the stakes." Do it by May 11th!

I look forward to the opportunity of greeting you at Conference with the message that we have met the need, and have implemented our obligations. But the answer is, as always, with the ministers and churches.

Rev. Charles Franklin Parker,
Moderator.

TOGETHER

Comments on the Merger by the Rev. Henry David Gray, Minister, Oneonta Congregational Church, South Pasadena

Our State Conference is in danger of division because of deep differences over the Basis of Union.

There has not been and is not now any widespread religious wave of desire for merger on the proposed Basis. Instead, our Conference is divided into three camps, For, Against and Bewildered. Some seem determined to push the Basis through willy-nilly, with no give-and-take for its modification or clarification. To others, such haste and such insistence on "all-or-nothing", appear to be unfitting in a matter of such importance.

What is the meaning?

The memory of "elder statesmen" in the Conference records no other major matter on which the discussion has ranged chiefly around the question, "What is the meaning of the document about which we are voting?" Obviously, when men of integrity and intelligence read the same words and find in them quite opposite meanings *something is wrong with the words.* The words should say the same thing to any educated Christian. Surely it is not beyond our power to work out *together* a Basis of Union which is clear to all. A "no" vote on the present Basis means a "yes" vote for a new and unambiguous Basis.

The Test of Any Fellowship

One of the most precious things in our Conference has been the trust that has existed between men of differing opinions. The merger-basis discussions have grievously injured that spiritual union, to the detriment of each of us individually and all of us collectively. Anything which so deeply upsets spiritual unity is open to serious question. Our associations as fellow-Christians are more important than our denominational name or organization, and the ultimate test of *any* Church fellowship is its contribution to the Christ-like character, life and service of those who are its members. The great words in John's gospel, "That they all may be one," have not the slightest connection with organizational matters, but are the poignant cry of the Master that His disciples might live in love and fellowship. Union without unity is not progress but prison. What we do we should do in trust and confidence *together.*

The Place of Emotion

Emotions seem to play a major part in the merger-basis discussions, which is unfortunate. Emotions are important and valuable, but not blind emotions. Emotion needs prayer and reason to direct it. To vote for this present Basis of Union because one likes the idea of union is emotional voting. The Basis ought to be accepted or rejected *on its merits.*

I shall be glad to send my personal views on its merits to any who wish them, but my present plea is for informed, intelligent, Christ-guided voting on the Basis of Union.

Only Courses of Action

A *clear* Basis on which we can wholeheartedly vote "yes" or a resounding "no" on the present divisive document seem to me to be the only courses of action by which we can go forward *together.*

I Believe in the Merger

The Rev. George W. Haskell, Minister,
Western Knoll Congregational Church, Los Angeles

I have voted in favor of the proposed union between the Congregational Christian Churches and the Evangelical and Reformed Church, and I shall continue to work and pray for the union for the following reasons:

One Community

1. I believe that the Church of Christ is one community and wherever possible denominations ought to merge. There is little rational basis for much of our divided Protestantism (as the critics of the church well know), and it is time for denominations to unite when feasible.

Traditions of Freedom

2. I believe that the merger will unite traditions which have stood for freedom. The Reformed wing settled in Pennsylvania at the time of William Penn, and the Evangelical wing immigrated to Missouri around 1825. Historically both groups have contributed to the cause of religious liberty in this country, as have the Congregational and Christian Churches.

New Spiritual Life

3. I believe that the union will invigorate the spiritual life of both denominations. We Congregationalists in recent years have emphasized the ethical implications of the gospel while the Evangelical and Reformed people have emphasized the theological, and when combined we will have a far more dynamic gospel than either communion has at present.

Others May Join Us

4. I believe that the merger will be a step towards further union. Christian people of all denominations are watching us with careful eyes. If we can merge, other free churches may join us. If we fail to unite, the cause of church union will be greatly impaired. Hasn't the Christian mind in America declared for decades that church union is God's will?

Pioneers for Union

5. I believe the merger to be a pioneering step in the process of union which we Congregationalists are called of God to take. We pride ourselves on being pioneers in such fields as education, missions, and social action. We have carried the flag in these fields, and now we are called up to carry the flag for church union.

Faith Instead of Fear

6. I believe in walking by faith instead of fear. I trust the integrity of our denominational leaders and those representatives of our churches who will be responsible for working out the details of the union. Certainly there will be problems, but if we walk by faith, the problems can be solved.

More Faithful Followers

7. I believe if the union is consummated we have the possibility of being better, stronger, more faithful followers of our Lord Jesus Christ.

"A generation once removed from the religious discipline of our fathers may get along and preserve its integrity, but the generation twice removed will find its merited religion pretty diluted stuff." — Former President Mary E. Wooley of Mount Holyoke.

The Women's Fellowship

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

The mid-winter meeting of the Missions Council in Grand Rapids, now past history, was a time of inspiration, education and fellowship, particularly in the sessions of the State Presidents.

Perhaps the theme of this meeting could be found in the words of Dr. Stauffacher: "We face up to our responsibilities."

We were conscious of the great concern felt by those in the leadership of our denomination for the Postwar Emergency Program; and it was pointed out over and over again that each one of us has a moral responsibility for its successful conclusion.

A million and a half dollars is needed to complete the program this year. It is going to take more devotion and effort on the part of each one of us, if the job is to be done. And it *MUST* be done.

We were also told that the women of the Fellowship are the mainstay of the missionary enterprise. It is the women who have given unstinted support to the missionary work at home and abroad; and it is the women to whom the Missions Council is appealing now, asking that we face up to our responsibilities.

Friendly Service has been called the "Housekeeper of the Missions Council", because it is through this department that so many needs of our schools and hospitals in the homeland have been met. In addition to this, food packages are being sent to missionaries overseas. Boxes of food have been sent to China, Japan, and India.

There are so many calls for children's clothing for overseas. Yarns and cut materials for sewing can be secured by writing to Church World Service, 110-112 East 29th St., New York 16. This committee *does* need your help. Good used clothing will continue to be an urgent need, but over and above what we give from our clothes closets is this program of sewing new garments. It is a labor of heart and hand from the churchwomen of America to the children of Europe in their great need.

Miss Ruth Seabury told of two Japanese women who walked from a great distance to a Service Center in Japan. With tears in their eyes they said, "Everything we have on came from America. Who are these people who were our ememies? Who are these people who have washed and ironed and packed these clothes so carefully? They must be Christians!" They were right. The clothes came from a church in America. Who can measure the influence of a Christian gesture that came through a box of clothing for people who were our enemies?

The last meeting of the Fellowship Board was held at Bethel Church, Ontario, Feb. 24, with a record attendance—251 reservations. The Fellowship is grateful to the ladies of the Ontario Church for their warm and gracious hospitality. There was food for serious thought in Dr. W. Henry Cooke's talk on Residential Segregation.

(*Continued on page* 35)

Christian Education

Pilgrim Youth

Are you using *Pilgrim Youth* to full advantage? This successor to the Pilgrim Highroad is entirely our own denominational magazine now. Jean Ferguson, the editor, is doing a fine job of presenting a variety of topics of interest. You will find good stories and articles on current problems, also discussion themes and a whole section called "The Tool Kit" where there are all kinds of usable ideas for parties, worship services, and discussion groups.

Many young people have their own individual subscriptions. Some Pilgrim Fellowship groups get the magazine for their officers. But the best plan yet is for each church school to provide this as their literature for young people and to see that every person of high school age has it. It's worth it!

Nisei Youth Rally

Your Director spent a most enjoyable evening on March 14 at Pilgrim House with about one hundred Nisei youth. The evening was divided between a well-planned worship service led by Ernest Uno, a community sing under the direction of Rev. Arnold Nakajima and a period of folk dancing in the gym. Young people from Pasadena, Los Angeles, Hollywood and Riverside were in attendance. This group has much to contribute to the fellowship of our Conference.

Oberlin Delegates

The four official delegates from our Southern California Conference to the National meeting of the Pilgrim Fellowship to be held in Oberlin, Ohio, in June are Jean Stiver, Pasadena; Dick Batchelder, Pomona; Maxine Schulte, Albuquerque, New Mexico; and Bob Frazer, Chula Vista. These young people are to be congratulated on their opportunity, and they will represent us well at this important meeting. Additional non-voting delegates will be chosen if arrangements, financial and otherwise, can be made. The delegation will travel by train under the care of the Rev. Francis Wise, who is the advisor for the Conference Pilgrim Fellowship.

New Campers for Pilgrim Pines

Arrangements have been completed whereby young people of both the E. and R. churches and the community churches of the Conference area will attend our Pilgrim Pines Camp this summer. We welcome them and their advisors to our camp fellowship. We believe that all of us have something to offer to the others. Both of these groups will furnish some adult leadership, and the Rev. Baron McLean of Fontana will be dean of one camp.

GEORGE D. JENKINS

Pilgrim House Vacation Plan

Pilgrim House, 120 N. Pedro St., Los Angeles, will again sponsor this summer, June 21-28, the entertainment of "Goodwill Ambassadors", Japanese, Chinese, Mexican, Negro and Caucasian children in Congregational homes for the week. Fifty were such guests last year and the program was most successful. If you would like to share in this year's vacation plan, indicate your preference of sex, age and race by writing Pilgrim House or Mrs. J. W. Mac Nair, 200 Ridgeview, Los Angeles 41.

Our Conference Summer Camps

PILGRIM PINES

One of the major developments in our conference in recent years has been the purchase and development of Pilgrim Pines Camp, 17 miles east of Redlands in the San Bernardino Mountains. Supt. Nelson C. Dreier suggested the need for such a camp early in 1943. Dr. Herbert C. Ide arranged to have representative leaders of the conference visit the site in June. The purchase of the first ten acres was completed by September. To supplement the small lodge and farm house on the property, buildings were erected and camp was in session by late June of 1944.

Gifts from individuals, churches and church organizations are responsible for this achievement. Much of the labor and money was provided by Laymen's Fellowship groups. Ide Canyon, a tract of sixty-seven acres, was contributed in honor of Dr. Ide by his many friends in the Redlands Congregational Church. The conference now owns approximately 78 acres and has improvements valued in excess of $50,000.00. Its value in inspiring Christian commitment cannot be told.

Pilgrim Pines is open the year around, in spite of the fact that for a weekend camp or two this past winter there were two feet of snow.

Groups of all ages use its facilities for weekend conferences throughout the year. The conference conducts camps for juniors, junior high senior high, college and adult groups continuously throughout the summer under the direction of the Rev. Geo. D. Jenkins, Conference Minister of Christian Education. Every weekend throughout the rest of the year the camp is in use by groups from conference churches. More than 4,000 people use the facilities annually.

PILGRIM PLAYGROUND

Pilgrim Playground lies twenty-six miles southwest of Flagstaff and serves the Arizona area. Supt. R. R. Shoemaker of the Southwest Conference first leased the property and induced fifteen families to build cabins for summer homes. By 1929 a chapel, Pilgrim Hall had been erected.

From July 6 to 11, 1930 the first young people's conference was held with twenty-five present from ten churches. Four classes were taught by the Revs. C. M. Calderwood, M. W. Baker, Godfrey Matthews, and Charles Franklin Parker, the latter a theological student. The Rev. Samuel Wright served as dean of boys and had charge of vespers. Mrs. Wright was dean of girls, registrar and director of music. Mrs. R. R. Shoemaker had charge of the dining room; Mrs. Mary McKee did the cooking; the Rev. S. L. Hernandez was in charge of grounds, and Supt. Shoemaker supervised everything.

During the 1930's the annual conference meeting was held here and Pilgrim Playground was in constant use all summer. In 1931, forty-five attended, twenty-one from Spanish-speaking churches. By 1936 delegates numbered one hundred and one and housing became an acute problem. Arizona women purchased a cabin, Mr. and Mrs. Shoemaker donated theirs, and a combined mess hall and chapel was built during the superintendency of Dr. O. A. Smith.

In recent years, through gifts from the Conference Women's Fellowship and from other sources, many improvements have been made. This summer an increasing number of junior and senior high youth will find Pilgrim Playground deepening their understanding of "the Pilgrim Way".

Our Conference Summer Camps

CAMP GREENHORN

Camp Greenhorn is a Kern County camp, provided by the county at no cost for use by organizations in the county. It is located sixty miles northeast of Bakersfield in the coast range hills at 4,000 feet elevation.

While there is no lake, there are the beautiful redwoods and other trees. The physical equipment consists of an equipped dining hall and kitchen, cabins with steel cots and mattresses, an evening campfire site with a stage-platform and a recreation hall.

Our Congregational youth have been going here in June for a number of years. The churches of Kern Association have made possible a week's conference experience for their youth through the leadership of their ministers and some adults, with usually some leadership from the Conference.

With the exception of the cooks the leadership has been voluntary and the only cost to the young people has been for actual expense of food and perhaps transportation. Each summer the young people participate in the mission projects of the Pilgrim Fellowship, sometimes topping the per capita giving for all the camps.

CAMP THUNDERBIRD

The new site for Camp Thunderbird chosen in April 1947 by a committee composed of the Revs. Winthrop Mager, Clarence Parr, Harold Johnson and Peter Jansen, with Jack Hall and Hugo Schulte, was formerly Camp Sully CCC Camp, twenty-two miles from Santa Rita, N. M., and two miles from the Mimbres Ranger Station, on a good all-weather forest road, sixteen miles of which is black top.

The lease was approved by the Forest Service in July 1947; an excellent well was developed, a pump installed, a 1000-gallon storage tank erected, and water piped to the camp area prior to the opening of the young people's conference in August.

Approximately $900 has been spent in the development thus far, funds coming chiefly from The Fellowship of Congregational Women of the Conference and the New Mexico-El Paso Association.

The first camp was held in tents borrowed from the Boy Scout office in Albuquerque. Bids on three buildings at Deming Air Base were rejected. The Forest Service offered to sell logs for a low figure to be used in building the necessary facilities for the camp. The Hurley Church raised $750 and the Santa Rita Church raised $640. Long-range plans have been drawn for buildings, first of which is a combination mess hall and assembly hall. The young people of Hurley and Santa Rita have cut and peeled 170 logs toward the estimated 300 necessary for the first unit, which will be completed by June 1948.

Skilled workmen have volunteered their services. Trucks, cement mixer, dump trucks, bulldozer and other equipment are being loaned by the mining company. A range, sink and mess hall tables have been given from army surplus. The entire community has participated in the project with real enthusiasm.

Dr. Nelson C. Dreier visited the camp in February with Rev. Harold Johnson and young people and approved present accomplishments and plans for the future. The thirty-five acres of feneed forest land, with its tall pines and surrounding mountains, make it an ideal camp site.

MORNING STAR VI REACHES DESTINATION

The sending of the American Board vessel, Morning Star VI, to the Micronesian Islands has interest to many in our conference because the Rev. Clarence Gillett, of South Pasadena, is stationed there. An excerpt from a letter home, dated March 3, at Dublon, in the Truk Atoll, Caroline Is., follows:

"The Star is HERE! It came in yesterday. What excitement—shouting—singing—calling from house to house and field to field! I must not stop to write more now because we have a very busy week ahead of us before it sails for the Mortlocks with Charles Heuser and Anna Dedera. We will be short-handed while they are away, but Loren Miller, Chaplain Miller's son, is taking a rest and helping us while they are gone. (Miller is one of the crew of four on the Star.)

"The Civil Administration Unit Commander is expected to call on us tomorrow, so I will not go to Noen but will send the mail over and take hospital patients in our whale boat on Monday.

"This afternoon I authorized the use of our little boat to carry lime, made from coral rock, to another island four to five miles away, for the building of a new church to replace the one destroyed in the war. We have already given some timber and may give, or get, or help them to get, still more. (We are hoping to procure part of a building from the former Japanese hospital here and use the material to rebuild two or three important churches.)

"This is our after-lunch rest hour (?) but I have already sold a $2 watch to a workman, discussed ordering white shirts for one of our pastors, and am trying to finish a letter to the Board about the Star, as well as write this before the weekly mail plane goes out.

—Clarence S. Gillett."

MORNING STAR VI MATE IN SAN DIEGO

When the Morning Star VI needed a new pilot upon reaching the Galapagos Islands, Karl Angermeyer, formerly a refugee with his brothers from Hitler Germany, volunteered to sail the vessel to Hawaii, having had sailing experience in Germany.

From Hawaii he came to Long Beach and on March 12 he booked passage from San Diego to the Galapagos Islands, his home, on a fishing boat going to the islands to get penguins for the San Diego Zoo.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS TO COME

May 2-9, National Christian Family Week.
May 6, All-day Family Strategy Conference, Los Angeles Church Federation.
May 9, Mother's Day; Christian Family Sunday.
May 11-12, Annual Meeting, Congregational Conference, First Congregational Church, Los Angeles.
May 13-14, Women's Fellowship Leaders' Conference, Mar Casa, Balboa.
May 14, San Diego Association Laymen's Dinner, San Diego.
May 20, Pentecost Sunday.
May 30, Memorial Sunday.
June 13, Children's Day.
June 17-24, General Council Meeting, Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio.
June 30-*July* 28, Summer School for Pastors, Sylvan Dale, Colorado.
Aug. 31-*Sept.* 3, Ministers and Wives' Retreat at Pilgrim Pines.
Sept. 3-6, Young Adult Conference.
Sept. 5, Labor Day Sunday.
Sept. 18-19, Laymen's Fellowship Annual Retreat at Pilgrim Pines.
Sept. 25-26, Arizona Laymen's Retreat at Camp Whetstine.
Sept. 26-*Oct.* 3, Religious Education Week.
Oct. 3, World-Wide Communion Sunday.
Oct. 24, World Order Sunday.

BOARD SECRETARY VISITS CONFERENCE

Stanley U. North

Stanley U. North, Director of City Work, The Board of Home Missions, was a speaker at the Minister's Convocation at Balboa on March 29. He spent several days in the Conference visiting new church projects with Supt. Nelson C. Dreier.

INSTITUTE OF CHURCHMANSHIP SPEAKER

Buell G. Gallagher

Buell G. Gallagher, one of the speakers on the laymen's Institute of Churchmanship program at Claremont on April 11, has been reported to have resigned his position as professor of Christian Ethics in Pacific School of Religion, to run for Congress. He was formerly president of Talladega University, Talladega, Ala.

RETURNS ON THE MERGER VOTING

At this writing thirty-two churches in our conference have voted on the merger. One voted "unanimously for" one, "two to one against", and thirty voted 1,737 for and 831 against.

PERSONALS

Born to the Rev. and Mrs. Stuart L. Anderson of Long Beach First on March 16, a daughter, Catherine Raezella, seven pounds and one ounce.

The Rev. Clifford Higby, formerly of Tombstone, Ariz., is now pastor of a yoked parish at Cedarville in Northern California.

PILGRIM PRESS SERVICE

3125 W. Adams Blvd., Los Angeles 16
Mrs. Sigrid Palm, *Manager*

It is always good to keep filling up the wells of inspiration through good reading. We suggest for you this month the following books:

Pillars of Faith by Nels Ferre $1.50
Tomorrow is Here by Kenneth Scott Latourette $1.50
Best Sermons, 1948, compiled by Paul Butler $2.75
Albert Schweitzer, the Man and His Mind by George Seaver $3.75
Words to Live By by William Nichols $2.75
Dr. Johnson's Prayers edited by Elton Trueblood $1.50
God and Men by Herbert H. Farmer (The Yale Lectures) $2.00
In the Light of the Cross by Harold Cooke Phillips $1.75
The Modern Message of the Minor Prophets Raymond Calkins $3.00

You may order from us your "Daily Devotions" booklets at $4.00 per 100.

Write us about folders for use on special Sundays.

We can also handle your order for Church School supplies.

Consult us about visual aids. A complete list will be sent you, if desired.

The Women's Fellowship

(*Continued from Page* 30)

Mrs. Donald Hsueh, graduate of Foochow and wife of the present principal of Foochow College, thrilled us with her story of faith and courage. Through our Thankoffering we are sharing in the rebuilding of Foochow College, which gave us an added interest in this talk.

MRS. THOMAS G. WIGHT

News of the Churches

LOS ANGELES ASSOCIATION

Atascadero Community

The Rev. Lowell A. Young, minister, attended the Pastors' Conference held in Berkeley in February . . . . The local Boy Scouts and Cubs were guests of the church at the morning service on February 8.

Claremont

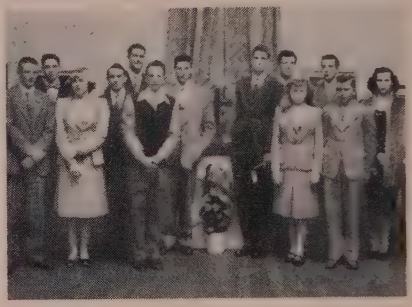
Although the Lenton Season provided many services of worship and inspiration, the Rev. Homer V. Yinger, because of a number of requests, provided a vesper service on Friday afternoons at 5:00 o'clock. Communion was served to all who desired it.

Glendale, First

The Explorers' Club, an adult church school class, provides special speakers each Sunday morning covering a wide range of services . . . During Lent the Pilgrim Fellowship and Congo Club had special talks by Kenneth Eade and Helen Shedd, students at Occidental College. The latter was a delegate to Oslo. The Rev. Jesse F. Perrin, minister.

Laguna Beach

The contract for the new parsonage was let and ground was broken in February. The cost will be $16,500. . . . The results of the Every Member Canvass exceeded expectations. Excellent congregations marked the Sunday services. The church school is growing and the Pilgrim Fellowship is gaining in strength. The picture shows the group of young people which conducted the service on Sunday, February 1. The minister, the Rev. Philip E. Gregory, sat in the congregation. These young people indicate the great promise before this church.



Long Beach, Bay Shore

The Rev. Milton G. Gabrielson conducted five services on Easter Sunday, at 6:00, 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 and 12:00 noon, in order to accommodate those desiring to attend . . . The Rev. George C. Safford who has been ill is reported better.

Long Beach, First

Miss Etta P. Winnie, a devoted member who passed away recently, left a bequest of $1,000 to the church which will become a part of the endowment fund and provide a continuing ministry . . . The University of Life program on Wednesday evenings during Lent featured "The Art of Living After Fifty", "Christian Social Action", and "Our Christian Faith", the latter taught by the Rev. Stuart L. Anderson . . . Miss Muriel Lester, founder of Kingsley Hall, London, spoke twice on March 9.

L. A., Bethany Rawson

During March a membership campaign involving a religious census of the parish, sponsored by the deacons and deaconesses, was conducted. Efforts were made to get unchurched children into the Sunday school. The Rev. William I. Newman, minister.

Church of Christian Fellowship

This interracial church exhibits a steady and vigorous growth, both in numbers participating and in influence exerted over a wide area. Many visitors from other states make it a point to worship here when opportunity offers. The Rev. Harold M. Kingsley, minister.

L. A., Eagle Rock United

Each Sunday morning the sermon of the Rev. Paul E. Babbitt is registered on a wire recorder. During the following week Mr. Ben DeWeese has volunteered to take the recorder to any shut-ins in the parish and play the sermon of the preceding Sunday. As far as we know, this is the first church to provide this service to shut-ins.

L. A., First

The Drama Workshop and the Cathedral Choir presented "The Coming of Christ" in the sanctuary on Sunday evening, February 22. So many were unable to be accommodated at this service that a second presentation was given the following week. . . . Speakers at the Wednesday evening dinners during March included Dr. Alvin Haag, Redlands University, and Dr. Robert E. Fitch, Occidental College. . . . Miss Jane Johnson, delegate to the Oslo Youth Conference, was the guest speaker at the Church of Youth and the Young Adult Church on Sunday evening, March 21. . . . The church is making preparations to entertain the Annual Conference Meeting on May 11 and 12. The Rev. James W. Fifield, Jr., is the minister.

L. A., Hollywood

Sunday, May 9 will be the occasion for the cornerstone laying ceremonies of Lash Chapel. Dr. Ronald Bridges, President of the Pacific School of Religion, will be the guest speaker.

L. A., Church of the Messiah

The church recently was the recipient of a gift of an electric mimeograph made possible by Louis Tee-Garden, a member of the board of directors. The Rev. Reynold B. Boden, minister.

L. A., North Hollywood

A building campaign was conducted in March, directed by the Rev. George W. Dowey, for $14,000 to be used to build the second unit of the new church. Up to March 15 the sum of $10,293.00 had been pledged and more was expected. This wonderful response indicates the fine cooperation of the minister, the Rev. Eugene Warner, and his people.

L. A., Plymouth

Henry Alvin Culbertson, leader of the youth groups at Plymouth and recent graduate of Occidental College, is now attending Pacific School of Religion at Berkeley preparing for the ministry. He is the son of Mrs. H. C. Culbertson and the late Rev. Henry Coe Culbertson, former pastor of Plymouth Church. The Rev. James H. More is the present pastor.

L. A., Western Knoll

The church is contemplating the building of a new educational unit. Because of the highly skilled workmen in the building trades in the church, it is anticipated that the building will be constructed at a minimum cost. It is greatly needed for church school purposes. The Rev. George W. Haskell, minister.

L. A., Manhattan Beach

The Rev. Stanley U. North, Director of City Work of the Board of Home Missions, was the guest preacher on Easter Sunday at the ten o'clock service. Miss Lily Haass, for many years a Y.W.C.A. secretary in China, spoke at the church night meeting on March 24. . . . The choir of Lincoln Memorial Congregational Church presented Mozart's "Elija" on April 11. The Rev. James A. Peterson, minister.

Pasadena, First

Dr. Garth H. C. MacGregor of Glasgow, Scotland, was the church night speaker on April 21. . . . A refugee dinner, consisting of Ralston Relief Cereal, was held on Maundy Thursday evening sponsored by the World Friendship Committee. The offering went to the Committee for War Victims and Reconstruction. The Rev. Raymond A. Waser, minister.

Pasadena, Neighborhood

Robert E. Brown, M.D., for twenty-five years head of a Methodist medical mission in China, spoke to the Markham Club on February 25. . . . . Towards the close of Lent the young adults presented the play, "Family Portrait." The Rev. Curtis Beach, minister.

Pomona Pilgrim

President William C. Jones of Whittier College was the guest speaker at he Men's Club Ladies' Night on March 17. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Robert DePrez presented the church with Deagan chimes to replace the electric bell system in Pilgrim Hall. . . . The Pilgrim Partners held a Mexican fiesta on Friday evening, March 19. Mrs. Carlos A. Avila, wife of the minister in China, who formerly lived in Mexico, was the speaker. . . . The "King of Kings" was shown each evening during Holy Week. The Rev. Victor M. Rhein, minister.

San Dimas Community

During Lent the Rev. Francis C. Ellis preached a series of sermons on "Great Moments in the Life of Jesus."

First, Santa Ana

Santa Ana, First

Dr. Titus A. Frazee, Executive Secretary of the California Temperance Federation, was the guest preacher on Sunday morning, February 22. The Rev. Seido Ogawa, Executive Secretary of the Congregational Committee on Christian Democracy, spoke at the church night meeting on March 17. The Rev. Fred W. Niedringhaus, minister.

Santa Barbara, First

In preparation for a vote on the merger, three Sunday evening forums were held so that all might vote intelligently. The Rev. C. Eugene Sill, minister.

South Pasadena, Oneonta

The Rev. Henry David Gray again was the author of the drama pre-

sented during Holy Week. . . . Three Easter Camps were held for young people at Arrowhead and Camp Baldy during the week preceding Easter.

Willowbrook

The Rev. Norman L. Brown and wife attended the Pastors' Conference in Berkeley in February. . . . Seven new members were received into the church on February 1. . . . A dinner and auction in the social hall of the church on February 13, with two hundred present, netted $253.00 toward the cost of the new building being erected.

Woodland Hills

Superintendent Nelson C. Dreier and Associate Superintendent Glenn A. Rowles were guests during March. Mr. Rowles preached the sermon on Maundy Thursday, at which time the charter membership list of the church was formerly closed. The Rev. Floyd Bailey, minister.

SAN BERNARDINO ASSOCIATION

Glen Avon

Supt. Nelson C. Dreier was the guest of the church on Sunday morning, March 14. The Rev. Donald R. Wismar, minister.

Ontario Bethel

Five college-age young people participated in the morning service on February 22, thus giving recognition to the youth work of the church. . . . The women of the church were host to the Fellowship of Congregational Women of the Conference on February 24. Mrs. Donald Head, wife of the minister and sponsor of the reading project, stated that from January 1 to February 15 sixty individuals had read 218 books.

Perris First

The dedication of the new building, Pilgrim Hall, set aside for educational and social purposes, occurred on Sunday, March 14. An "Achievement Banquet" was held on Monday, April 15, to celebrate the realization of this long-time dream. Tickets were five dollars per couple. The Rev. C. E. Magnuson, minister, has been a prime mover in this fine project.

Redlands First

The Rev. and Mrs. Sherwood Moran, special representatives of the church in Japan under the American Board, were assured the gift of a jeep station wagon which is being provided by the church. The Rev. William D. Pratt, minister.

Riverside First

The Rev. Paul W. Yinger, attended the Pastors' Conference at the Pacific School of Religion in February. . . . A new week-day program for youth was to be inaugurated on April 3 in Pilgrim Hall, with supervised games, dancing, motion pictures and refreshments provided. The church is to be commended on this concern for youth.

SAN DIEGO ASSOCIATION

Chula Vista

Over one hundred young people participated in the county-wide Pilgrim Fellowship Rally held at Chula Vista on February 22. The discussion of the merger led by a panel of ministers featured the program. . . . Recent guest speakers were Lloyd Lorbeer of India and Mrs. Donald Hsueh of China. . . . The spring meeting of the San Diego Association was held in this church on Sunday, April 4. The Rev. Williston Wirt, minister.

Lemon Grove Community

The Rev. Ralph C. Waddell not only gives fine leadership to his local church work but also writes the Bible notes for the "Adult Bible Class Quarterly," and is a nationally known and respected leader of religious education.

La Jolla Union

Rev. William Forshaw preached a

Lenten series of sermons on "Who Shall Dwell in God's Holy Hill. . . . Plans are being considered for enlarging and improving the Sunday School.

Ramona First

Church attendances this year have been above the average. Duplicate services were held on Easter Sunday. The Men's Breakfast Bible Class, taught by the minister, the Rev. Lambreth E. Hancock, has averaged thirty-three a Sunday. . . . The church will celebrate its fiftieth anniversary on April 25. . . . The outside of the church has been painted, labor and material being donated.

Community, Vista

Vista Community

The rapid population increase has made immediate consideration of increased building facilities necessary. With the membership at 550, church attendances taxing the capacity of the sanctuary, and the church school averaging more than 425 each week, conditions are crowded. Plans under study call for a new educational building to the east of the main structure. This church, organized twenty-one years ago, includes in its membership individuals from twenty-three denominational backgrounds. . . . Miss Dorothy Marshall who will soon go to the border country of Nepal and Tibet is the first member of the local church to go in for missionary service. The Rev. Graeme C. Smith, minister.

ARIZONA ASSOCIATION

Phoenix, First

A campaign to raise $13,000 toward the remodeling and building program was scheduled the first week in April. The success of this venture will insure more adequate facilities for social and religious education purposes. The Rev. Fredrick A. Barnhill, minister.

Tempe

The spring meeting of the Arizona Association was held in Tempe on April 18 and 19. The recently dedicated social and educational unit helped provide adequate facilities. The Rev. Cecil L. Prior, minister.

Tombstone

Supt. Nelson C. Dreier was the guest speaker on Friday evening, February 27. His theme was the proposed merger. The Rev. George R. Bennett, minister.

KERN ASSOCIATION

Arvin Union

Plans for the remodeling of the church annex have been approved and work has begun. Eight new class rooms will be provided for church school purposes. The Rev. C. H. Hoffman, minister.

Maricopa

The church was host to the spring meeting of the Kern Association on April 16. The Rev. David R. Martin was host pastor.

Panama Community

The church has undertaken to pay off the grant mortgage to the Church Building Society for $554.00 in order that the society may aid in the building of new churches. The Rev. Richard G. Heddon, pastor.

PACIFIC ISLANDS

In the great Pacific world so recently made free, our pioneering work must be completed

J. LEON HOOPER

In considering the expanse of land and water known as Southeast Asia, one may fail to realize that this vast area may be regarded as a single whole. A careful study reveals, however, the existence of certain factors which tend to unite the various sections and elements within the total area which, for size and importance, ranks first among the different regions of the earth.

COMMON DENOMINATORS

Parallel lines of political, economic and religious development soon become visible. There are, indeed, so many common denominators in these lands, despite divisions of geography and language, as to demand a serious consideration by Christian groups, within the various countries of that region, of ways and means for opening and developing free intercourse with each other at every level.

The Christian forces at work in these areas, and the Christian churches already established, may find themselves, in the next historical period, caught in a position similar to that of the Allies at the beginning of World War II, who, according to Lord Mountbatten, lost the early battles of the war because of the lack of over-all strategy. They fought, he declared, a tactical war and thus lost each separate battle.

The Christian forces likewise have been working separately. But the conditions which will hereafter obtain in these countries as they emerge into nationhood will call for an over-all Christian strategy to meet the challenge which will come to them. There are strong Christian churches in each of these lands, and there is a possibility that these churches may become a significant force in the growth of a more advanced cultural economic and political life.

CHURCH COOPERATION

Geographical location is favorable to the coordination of Christian work. Burma, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya, Indonesia, Sarawak, the Philippines, and the South Sea Islands lie within the same general compass and have the same tropical climate. Distance has been largely eliminated by the airplane. And these countries, standing at strategic crossroads of world air travel, are linked up with each other by local air service. The people have eternally taken to the air and are visiting back and forth becoming acquainted one with another in a way that was never possible before.

Racially, these peoples, numbering

Top, left, two former Training School boys. Isaac, *left,* is training to be a doctor and Boaz is a teacher. *Left,* Training School, Truk Atoll. *Above,* a church at Jiminez, Mindanao.

about one hundred and fifty millions, are, with the exception of Chinese immigrants, Melanesians and Polynesians of Malayan ancestry. They have come into contact with successive civilizations that have passed over them, and they differ somewhat in culture and religion. But the physical type is nearly the same throughout all Malaysia, and they are becoming more conscious of their common racial background and other common elements in their cultural life. They desire as a whole to participate in a cooperative study and over-all solution of the problems which grow out of their approach to independent nationhood and their regional development along economic lines.

Due in the past to the lack of local communication and to the fact that their political and economic ties for the most part have been unilaterally with western nations, they have had little opportunity for contact as fellow Christians among themselves. They have sent delegates from time to time to world Christian conferences to discuss world problems, but seldom talked with each other about local

, tent left by U.S. ny is used as church l destroyed build- can be restored by help. *Right, center,* pino children busy he three R's. *Right,* *Morning Star* which els between isles. ve, a ragged Fili- o boy stands by de- of Mountain Home.

Congregational Christian
NEEDS AND OBJECTIVES IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC
1949 – 1950

In the great Pacific world so recently drawn into the international spotlight and so recently made free by the forces of liberation, millions of people are tasting now for the first time all the sweetness — and the bitterness — of individual and social responsibility.

In the Philippines, our church program is carried on in cooperation with Presbyterians, Baptists, United Brethren, Disciples and other denominations — through the newly established Church of Christ in the Philippines. But in Micronesia, Congregational Christians are the one denomination at work, having been urged by both the International Missionary Council and the occupation authorities to reassume this responsibility.

REBUILDING

In the Philippines, Postwar Emergency Program funds have been immensely helpful in repairing war-destroyed churches. But to complete the rebuilding of the medical program at Davao and Dansalan a total of $20,000 is required for the next two years.

In Micronesia, we are called upon not only to rebuild our destroyed churches, schools and residences, but also to assume responsibility for the program of the collapsed German and Japanese missions. This rebuilding program calls for $20,000.

CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS

In the Philippines, in cooperation with other denominations, our American Board for Foreign Missions is contributing $9,000 in the next two years to the new united church — to aid in the development of its general evangelistic program. In Micronesia, $5,000 is needed annually to strengthen the work of the island churches.

Scholarships for the College of Theology at Silliman University are needed to aid in the training of leaders for Philippine churches and schools. The amount required is $4,000 annually. In addition — new schools, which are developing on Mindanao, must be given grants-in-aid to assure higher educational standards. For this, $5,000 is required. And to restore our training centers and to establish new schools in Micronesia for the training of pastors and teachers, $10,000 will be required annually.

NEW AREAS OF SERVICE

In cooperation with other denominations, our American Board for Foreign Missions plans to devote $4,000 a year toward the development of a union rural program in fertile Mindanao. In Micronesia, a program to open countless atolls and islands to Christian influence will cost $5,000 annually.

problems, or about the extension of Christ's kingdom in their midst. With the coming of independence, the Christian groups will have a chance at length to share in a united approach to the new problems which are bound to arise, and means should be provided for study and effective cooperation.

Christian communities, growing up to a sheltered life within each of the countries in the area, are large in comparison to similar communities in other parts of Asia. They compose, indeed, the largest aggregation of Christians in any region of comparable size in the whole of the Far East. There are 2,000,000 Protestant Christians in Indonesia, some 2,000,000 in the Philippines, counting the Aglipayans who have recently related themselves indirectly with the Episcopal group, and 375,000 in Burma, Malaya, Siam, and Micronesia. This comprises a body of about 4,500,000 possessing a common heritage of Christian faith, conscious of their common lot and eager for interchange of experience and Christian culture.

JOINT PLANNING

One cannot say categorically how much further a cooperative work could be carried. But once the group has decided what it wishes to do, certain lines of activity become immediately feasible. These lie largely in the field of joint planning, and probably also in education. A general pattern of effort for the entire area might be applied by informal groups. And out of such informal planning, other lines of activity might well be developed. These could be as extensive and definite as the groups themselves should decide. Some of the activities which suggest themselves are preliminary conferences, which could be started with little machinery and could be made to provide for certain more functional types of conferences, to cover such departments as youth work and theological education. A radio program might be set up for the whole area, and unified support of a great broadcasting station at a place like Singapore could be undertaken at once.

TYPES OF MUTUAL WORK

Another line of mutual effort would be the interchange of Christian workers. This might be on an exchange basis, or Christian workers from some of the areas might be transferred to other areas on a permanent basis. A doctor might stay indefinitely with a hospital, or a teacher with a school.

One line of practical cooperation of the functional type would be education on the university level. Such education has not been adequately provided in most of these countries either by the government or by Christian groups. In some cases governmental plans may not permit private education, but the churches will need such university trained people for their pastorates, their lower schools, and their hospitals.

A school of tropical medicine under Christian auspices would be one of the greatest boons that could be offered by Christian groups. It should be first class in every way and designed to provide a high grade educational training for medical students, and also to serve as a great research center to which people from other parts of the world would go for study and research. The area is one of the most densely populated in the world and offers all the opportunities for Christian medical service that could be wished.

Dr. Hooper is a secretary for the Philippines and Siam of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

Photos by Religious News Service and by courtesy of the American Board for Foreign Missions.

A Land of Transition

CHINA is awakening and perhaps more is at stake in China for the world's tomorrow than in any other sphere

ROWLAND M. CROSS

China is in violent transition from feudalism to democracy. This is at once an explanation of the present uncertainty, confusion and pessimism —and a ground of hope for tomorrow.

Externally, China has moved into the family of nations as a partner in one world. Internally, the way forward to democracy is temporarily blocked by an aggressive communism and a reactionary nationalism.

Since their establishment in China, the Christian churches have been a progressive societal force. A Chinese leader has declared that Christian missions have contributed specifically to the emancipation of women by building up public opinion against footbinding and by pioneering in education for girls and in higher education for women.

MISSIONS IN CHINA

One of the best known Chinese interpreters of his country to the West has shown how a Christian, through his allegiance to Christ, is able to transmute the ethics of Confucius from an abstract code into a way of life. The *China Critic,* a non-Christian publication, made the statement early in the war that "Christian missions have definitely found their place in the life of the nation by fulfilling great human needs in its hour of travail."

So through the years the Christian program in China has encouraged and stimulated forward-looking movements for spiritual development and for political and social well-being.

CHALLENGE OF COMMUNISM

Communism presently offers the greatest challenge that either China or the Christian churches have had to face. The church proposes to meet this challenge with a program.

First, a careful study is being made of Communistic ideology and practice to ascertain its goals, and to find out how it actually functions. The record is not encouraging, for where the churches have attempted thus far to carry on in communistic areas obstacles have appeared. Yet, one Chinese Christian, who was carried off by the Communists and then released, urges that with tact, patience and a willingness to pay the price of missionary achievement, we may well keep on trying as ambassadors of Christ have always done in the face of other difficulties. *In the second place,* representative Christians are pressing for drastic reform within the nationalist government.

The Chinese have a proverb for every situation. Here is one that fits the present situation: "It is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness." In this spirit we are answering Chinese Communism with our Program of Advance which, if carried out successfully, will provide an abundant life for the people in a better way than the communists have even promised to do.

PROGRAM OF ADVANCE

The Program of Advance aims at a fundamental rehabilitation of personal and social existence in all areas of life, including that change of character-structure in the individual which, when multiplied by the thousands, can make a new world not only possible, but actual. This comprehensive program for the five years ahead may be pointed up here in only barest outline.

In *evangelism,* a three-year movement has been launched not only to present more clearly the claims of Christ upon each church member, but also to reach out into special groups such as Moslem civilians, soldiers, prisoners and frontier tribes. Attention will be given to youth in cities and to students in middle schools and colleges.

In education, emphasis will be put upon the reestablishment of 250 high schools with particular attention to vocational training and to more effective geographical distribution of graduates. The correlated program of our thirteen Christian colleges calls for an initial expenditure of $7,000,000 for rehabilitation with a continuing subsidy of $500,000 per year; and for a total of 260 teachers as members of their faculties.

In medicine, emphasis will be put upon a program of therapy through 250 hospitals, a preventive program of public health (such as Helen Dizney is carrying on), and a training program in five medical and fifty nurses' schools.

The Rev. P. H. Wang, former pastor of our Central Congregational Church in Peiping.

In scripture distribution, three societies from abroad, united in the China Bible House, aim to increase annual publication to 300,000 Bibles, 300,000 Testaments, and 3,000,000 copies of the four gospels. The Council of Christian Publishers, comprising nine publication agencies, will develop a literature program for China designed to meet the needs of all ages and groups, and will centralize and consolidate the processes of distribution by using cooperative Christian bookstores in sixteen cities.

Religious education, under the leadership of Chester Miao, will hold interdenominational Lay and Youth Training Institutes, publish old and new curricular materials, and promote the religious educational fellowship.

Visual aids work under direction of Arthur Rinden and in connection with Nanking University is well un-

Top, left, Chinese children with supervisors sing and play at the mission. *At left, center,* Senior High School Building, Foochow, in process of reconstruction in our program of rebuilding for the youth. *Left,* the front of our church in Fenchow. *Center, top,* a group of mission workers holds morning devotions with missionaries. *Circle,* a young Chinese helper serves food, donated by our American churches, in an orphanage.

Top, right, Chinese orphans of the mission struggle through their calisthenics. *Center, right,* a choir, made up of students attending one of the thirteen Christian colleges in China which we help to support, rehearses for a Sunday service. These colleges make a solid Christian contribution to Chinese life and culture in these trying days. *Right,* the pastor of our Lau Memorial Church, Foochow. *Circle,* young girl learns art of child care.

Congregational Christian
NEEDS AND OBJECTIVES IN CHINA
1949 – 1950

Through the trials and disasters of the past twenty years a truly strong Chinese church has taken root under Chinese leadership. It has become a part of Chinese life.

But Chinese Christian leaders, confronted by tragic needs, need the assistance of their sister churches in the United States in the unfinished task of introducing Christ to all of China.

CHRISTIAN INSTITUTIONS

During the war, Chinese Christians proved their ability to maintain their churches. They kept churches alive and growing.

But today we must provide more adequate support for the Chinese churches, for their Christian educational and medical institutions, and for other indispensable service agencies.

TRAINING LEADERSHIP

Many Chinese Christian leaders lost their lives during the war. It is imperative now that we furnish scholarships to thirty Chinese students — all of great potential leadership — for training in their own country.

In addition, it is urgent that we bring five experienced and outstanding Chinese Christian staff members to the United States for one year's special study and for visitation among our churches.

NEW BUILDINGS

To implement the Christian program in China, new buildings must be constructed and equipped for: (1) Three China Christian colleges; (2) The Theological College, the High School and the Hospital at Foochow — all union institutions; (3) Primary Schools in Fukien at Ingtai, Diongloh and Shaowu; (4) a hospital at Ingtai in Fukien; and (5) a North China Mission Headquarters Building.

MISSIONARY RESIDENCES

We Congregational Christians are concerned that the Christian faith of our fathers shall play an essential part in forming tomorrow's pattern. New and more missionaries are required — and this calls for additional missionary residences. We must send twelve new missionaries to China in response to forty-nine separate and urgent requests. Three new missionary residences are required in China.

To make these improvements and developments in the quantity and quality of our Christian program in China will require the allocation of $295,200 in 1949 and 1950.

der way in the preparation of film strips and slides, pictures, charts and worship programs; and in the promotion of workshops and training institutes. Radio and broadcasting will be developed as a means of evangelism and education in line with the recommendation of a survey team which studied the situation in China.

Ministering to Rural People, as worked out by John Reisner, Jones Hunter, and Hugh Hubbard with their Chinese colleagues, provides for: (1) Ten Christian rural service and training centers such as the one in North China; (2) Four research centers in home and family life; (3) Support of the College of Agriculture and Forestry at Nanking with twenty rural demonstration centers. Closely related is the general program of home and family life which will bring the power of Christianity to bear upon the disintegrating Chinese domestic framework and aims to produce a new pattern of familial relationships with Christ as the spiritual sponsor.

URBAN PROGRAM

Recognizing the part which cities play in the interplay of cultures and mindful of the influence of city patterns upon rural habits, *a major effort will be made to Christianize the structural foundations of every city in China.* This mighty project will require 1) The strengthening of metropolitan churches in the 100 cities which now have Christian middle schools and hospitals. The Church and Alumni Movement aims to reach the graduates of these institutions and the Fishermen's Club enlists laymen for entire service. 2) A coordinated plan for reaching all civic groups. The Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. are reopening former associations and are starting new ones while training personnel to reach the industrial workers.

In all movements of advance, *personnel* is of primary importance. The gradual passing over of administrative responsibility for our missionary enterprises to Chinese leaders, (a policy in which the American Board has been a pioneer) makes it imperative that these leaders be discovered, cultivated, fortified and refreshed by every means, including frequent opportunities for special courses both in China and abroad. And their number must be increased even if this involves a temporary subsidy.

NEW MISSIONARIES

The individual missionary continues, however, to be basic to the Christian program in China. Fields and modes of work may change, but the demand is forever urgent. The present goal is 5,000 missionaries by 1953, of which 3,000 will come from North America. There are now 2,500, leaving 500 more to be recruited in the United States.

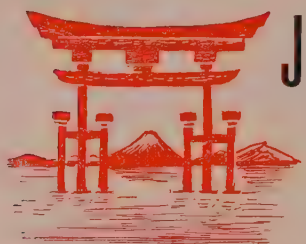
In addition it will be necessary, in order to make up the losses by death, retirement, etc. to recruit 250 each successive year — men and women trained specifically for the rural field, for city work, for student evangelism for literature production and distribution, for religious education, for medicine including public health, and for education in middle school and college.

This is a magnificent, although realizable program. The question is not, "Is it too great?" but rather, "Is it in any measure adequate to meet the present challenge in seething China?"

Dr. Cross is a secretary of the Foreign Missions Conference of North America with a special responsibility for East Asia, and since 1916 a missionary in China of our American Board for Foreign Missions.

Photos by Religious News Service; Alexanderson; and by courtesy of the American Board for Foreign Missions.

Freedom's New Frontier



JAPAN hopes for freedom from poverty, confusion, disease. Shall they turn to the past, or Russia, or to Christ?

LUMAN J. SHAFER

Japan's defeat, by a strange paradox, has become a means of liberation for the Japanese people. The oppressive hand of chauvinistic militarism has been lifted, and for the first time in many years the people of Japan can think and speak freely without fear of the police. At the same time, their synthetic belief in a special divine destiny has been shattered and their nationalistic pride is humbled.

But, they are confused. The loss of old faiths has left a spiritual vacuum. The destruction of the war has brought unimagined poverty with attendant disease. Moral standards have broken down.

The Japanese must find a new way of life, but it leads through a maze of uncertainty. There is an unprecedented willingness to be taught and to be led; but to which of the many discordant voices shall they listen? Shall they regress to the past and fall back into the patterns of a revived nationalism? Shall they accept their fate in a spirit of despair? Shall they stumble into the delusive utopianism of communistic totalitarianism? Or shall they plant their feet steadfastly upon the freedom-road of Christian faith?

In such an hour of a nation's history it is a privilege for others — for us who are North American Christians — to help its profoundly sobered people to recognize the claims of a risen Christ, for we know that in him alone lies individual and national redemption. To an extraordinary degree the Japanese are ready to accept assistance from sincerely sympathetic friends whose hands reach out to them in their struggle to regain personal and social dignity.

PROGRAM OF ADVANCE

The Japan Committee of the Foreign Missions Conference has developed a program to extend over the next five years, and it should be carried out with great tact and in full cooperation with the churches in Japan. We must be careful lest in our eagerness to help we should overwhelm with kindness that weary but intrepid company of Christians who having come safely through the fiery trial, now hold the future of their country in their hands.

The plans, set up in accordance with this principle, have been worked out after full consultation with Japanese Christian leaders culminating in a conference at Yumoto in the summer of 1947. They call for a total expenditure of some twenty million

Congregational Christian
NEEDS AND OBJECTIVES IN JAPAN
1949 – 1950

THE CHURCH

The total program of our American Board for Foreign Missions in Japan is coordinated with that of the Church of Christ in Japan and the National Christian Education Association with their significant interdenominational projects.

Economic conditions in Japan make it imperative that our sponsorship of churches in Japan be continued for at least the next five years, but not long enough to endanger Japanese Christian autonomy and independence.

For the coming two years a subsidy of $10,000 annually is proposed, in addition to the sum of $50,000 still to be paid out of Postwar Emergency Program funds toward the rebuilding of destroyed churches.

EDUCATION

Christian education is indispensable to the growth of emancipated youth. Japanese schools are vastly overcrowded. And this is especially true of schools under Christian auspices. Training in democracy and in sound character building is in such demand that enrollments have gone from two to five times beyond prewar figures.

To provide what is necessary to keep abreast of this demand for Christian education will require $300,000 over and above the grant from the Postwar Emergency Program for rebuilding schools, institutions and residences — with an increase of $10,000 in normal annual grants for school operating expenses.

A strong Christian University should be founded and equipped to complete the work already being done by existing institutions. Steps are now being taken to establish such an institution and our Congregational Christian churches are asked to contribute $70,000 towards an initiating fund in which all other major denominations will share on an equal basis.

RURAL ENTERPRISES

With the change of rural outlook, the breaking up of old patterns and the redistribution of the land, we are faced with a new rural Christian opportunity. Unified interdenominational programs will make it possible to serve rural areas for the first time. We propose to enter this cooperative enterprise with other denominations and $2,000 annually will be needed.

SOCIAL WORK

Christian social and neighborhood centers are called upon to meet the acute need of salvaging personalities warped by war, by enforced repatriation from overseas colonies, by malnutrition and overwork.

What we can do is relatively little; but $2,000 in 1949 and $3,000 in 1950 will make this much increase possible in our present social work program.

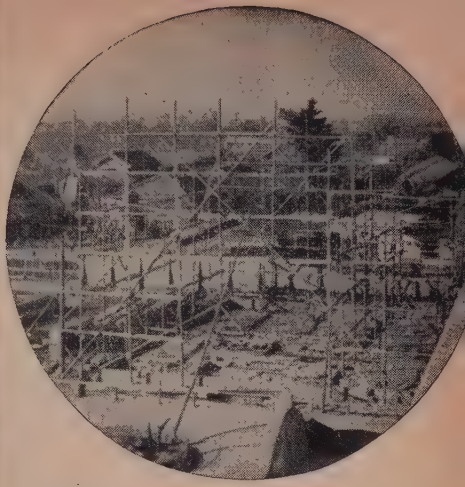
Top, center, panorama of Kobe College, showing quadrangle, auditorium and social center. *Left, top,* one of the twenty Quonset Hut churches sent by Church World Service to meet the emergency created by the loss of 500 churches in the war. Your gifts to the Postwar Emergency Program help to provide these churches. *Left,* the wading pool, our Neighborhood House located in Osaka, Japan.

dollars during the next five years, and represent the service of the American churches as a supplement to the work being done by the indigenous Christian movement in Japan.

The amount fixed in the program is exclusive of the reconstruction of schools, which is itself a project of large proportions. There were before the war 413 kindergartens, five primary schools, fifty-nine junior high schools, twenty-eight junior colleges and three men's colleges. The buildings in which many of these were housed have been partially or entirely destroyed, and all have greatly deteriorated. Detailed estimates of the cost involved in their reconstruction and rehabilitation were not available when this article was being prepared, but it will involve a large outlay.

It is impossible in brief compass to enlarge upon the program in detail, but we may point out the most important items for present survey.

The largest of these items has to



Above, your gifts to our Postwar Emergency Program have contributed to the construction of this girls' school building, Japan.

do with missionary personnel. This is undoubtedly the heart of the program and indicates the distinctive contribution which the churches of North America can make to the Christianizing of Japan. The number of missionaries originally called for in the program was 600, but the estimate will probably be revised upward by the Foreign Missions Conference after further study.

Above, the Reverend Mr. Hinohaia, the secretary of the United Church of Japan in front of church's headquarters. *Left,* your gifts made this food available for these war orphans in a land where there are thousands of orphans.

Another important aspect of the report is the promise to go forward into the outlying agricultural areas. Rural dwellers, before the war, were the most difficult to reach, but Dr. Kagawa now reports that his best hearing is among country people.

Thought patterns formerly dictated by local shrine authorities have broken down. A program carried out on the broad lines developed in recent years by the rural missionary designed to meet the actual needs of farmers is urgently called for, and if vigorously applied should bear immediate fruit. The report envisages the development of a central rural training school with three other units in various geographical districts, and fifty local rural centers associated with missionaries in different areas.

URBAN CENTERS

There is also a plan for eighty urban centers in connection with as many city churches. This looks toward the establishment of these centers on a diminishing subsidy, with a view to their becoming indigenous as soon as practicable.

Another of the most helpful contributions which can be made to the Christianizing of Japan is the raising up of Japanese leadership. The plan provides for aid to theological education, to specialized training schools for kindergartners to social workers, and to leaders in Christian home and family life. A far-reaching aspect of this program is the opportunity for study abroad that it will afford to selected leaders for training. An amount of $475,000 is set aside for this purpose, and as soon as it is possible for students to leave Japan, the significance of this portion of the program will become evident.

Another outstanding item is the proposed Japan Christian University. The plan calls for a contribution of $1,000,000 from the Foreign Boards of the cooperating denominations, the rest to be raised by nation-wide campaigns in the United States and Canada. A desirable site is now available, fifteen miles from the center of Tokyo, and prospects for the early realization of this project are in sight. A graduate school of education, a priority at the present time, is contemplated as the first unit in the University.

Other items of great importance are the production of Christian literature, and the supplying of newsprint and ink for this purpose, a program of visual aids, public health projects, an average of $612,500 a year for the publication and distribution of the Scriptures to be carried out by the American Bible Society through the Japan Bible Society, newspaper evangelism, student Christian centers in state and private universities, church youth camps and conferences, provision for a church building loan fund, and aid to the evangelistic campaigns of the churches.

BOLD PLANNING

In such a confused and fluid situation as that of Japan today, it is impossible for any group, however well-informed, to set down in full compass all that should or must be done over the next five years. Radical revision will be necessary to keep pace with the developing situation, but even so the report as it now stands is probably as comprehensive and realistic as it can be made at this time.

Let us hope and pray that it may prove to be utterly inadequate as the days go by, and that the challenge of the situation will require the projection and the fulfillment of plans both bolder and more extensive than those outlined above.

Dr. Shafer is a secretary for China, Japan and Africa of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in America.

Photos by courtesy of the American Board for Foreign Missions.

LATIN AMERICA

We must strengthen our historic work in Mexico—one of the great missions of tomorrow

W. STANLEY RYCROFT

Though nominally Roman Catholic, many million Latin Americans are spiritually estranged; and while the cultural pattern has been largely influenced by Roman Catholicism, it is more secular than Christian. Outward conformity has most often been stressed instead of a change of heart and deep inward conviction.

But new forces are now contending for the soul of Latin America and an ideological battle is going on. Ruthless dictatorships still exist in some countries; and an extreme nationalism, supported by the army and too often by the church, suppresses or curbs individual freedom in others.

Communism, or some other form of revolutionary leftism, is moving into the vacuum created by spiritual decadence. In the absence of true democracy, supported by a vigorous and vital Christian movement, communism will surely spread because it has the force and dynamic, if not the real essence, of a religion.

Yet Protestantism is gaining ground. The Advance Program, as drawn up by the Committee on Cooperation in Latin America, in consultation with the mission boards and the field, is based upon a conviction that now is the time to go forward. Many, who believe in freedom and democracy, are eager for some better faith by which to live.

Protestantism begins with evangelism; that is, with the proclamation of the gospel as the transforming power of Christ in human hearts. This then is the first part of an Advance Program.

In Mexico five million copies of the Bible have been distributed in homes through a specially organized crusade to put the scriptures in the hands of every family in the land. The supply of scriptures in Latin America as a whole cannot keep up with the demand.

PROGRAM FOR UNCHURCHED

Dr. George P. Howard, special evangelist at large under the Committee on Cooperation in Latin America, makes a special appeal to the unchurched who may not be willing to attend a Protestant church, but will go to a lecture in a hall or theater. There is urgent need for two full-time evangelists to present the gospel to the *intelligentsia* and to the university students (both largely as yet unreached by the gospel) as well as to the industrial workers, who as a group, are largely estranged from Catholicism and are susceptible to a new appeal — whether it be that of

communism or of Protestantism.

Two other vehicles of gospel truth lie within our grasp in these days: they are Christian literature and radio evangelism. And both are able to reach the people who do not wish to enter a Protestant church.

The second part of the Advance Program is directed to the building up and strengthening of the evangelical churches. Through the media of young people's institutes, summer camps and conferences, young people may be brought more and more into Christian service. Leadership is a problem in every Latin American country, and if the churches are to grow they must have the right kind of leaders — able, courageous and consecrated. Scholarships are needed to help some of these young people prepare themselves adequately for service.

Pastors' institutes play an important part in bringing ministers of the various denominations together for study and fellowship. An interseminary movement can accomplish a similar purpose among the theological students. In Mexico City, for example, there are several evangelical seminaries.

Above, the Instituto Colon at Guadalajara, Mexico. Our Congregational Christian work was begun in Guadalajara in 1872 by Luther Stephens and David Watkins, brave pioneers.

Churches, Sunday Schools and young people's groups need visual aid equipment, while the whole question of religious education, including the preparation of curricular materials and the training of teachers, presents a stupendous problem.

A third aspect of the program of advance has to do with service to the communities.

About seventy-five per cent of the population in Latin America is rural, and yet the rural areas are, as a rule, the most neglected. A new approach is needed — one that s e i z e s upon e v e r y opportunity — and there is none greater than in rural Latin America. An integrated program is now of the essence — built around the needs of all the people to attack ignorance, illiteracy, ill health, malnutrition, inadequate housing, lack of skills, and economic handicaps wherever they are found. A varied pro-

Top, left, Protestantism is gaining strength and popularity in Mexico. This is a picture of one of our Congregational churches in Mexico. The Protestants of Mexico need our help and encouragement in the strengthening of their churches and the Christian movement. *Above,* some of the Sunday School children in the above Ahualulco church. The pastor is seated near the center of the picture. *Left,* a few of the children, first-grade pupils, in our Instituto Colon in Guadalajara. Margarita Wright, with the children, has been our representative in Guadalajara for 30 years.

gram calculated to meet these problems will bring individuals and perhaps entire communities to Christ and will help them to live a more satisfactory life. Nowhere is such a program more urgent than in Mexico.

Urban centers also need a rounded-out program built around church life. Services of worship are not enough. A church must serve as the nucleus around which are built a multiplicity of services that meets the practical needs of people and redeems them spiritually.

These three broad aspects of a Christian program hang together. All are important, but they should be kept in balance.

If Christians in Latin America can move forward together in the accomplishment of these supreme tasks, we need have no fear of the spread of Communism. But the churches at home must do much more than they are yet doing in order to make possible the advance.

Dr. Rycroft is secretary of the Committee on Cooperation in Latin America of the Foreign Missions Conference.

Photos by courtesy of the American Board for Foreign Missions.

Congregational Christian
NEEDS AND OBJECTIVES IN MEXICO
1949 — 1950

YOUTH LEADERSHIP

One of the significant opportunities which our American Board for Foreign Missions expects to grasp is that of helping to train a group of Mexican young people for leadership in their churches and communities. Two thousand dollars annually will make possible scholarship aid to at least two and perhaps three young people who qualify for this special training.

CHURCHES

Another vital point at which we may make ourselves constructively felt in Mexico is in helping to strengthen the younger churches, so that they can establish themselves as a significant factor and element in the general religious life of the country.

SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL BUILDINGS

Our schools and social centers in Mexico need new buildings — with larger staffs and more adequate equipment.

A new site has been purchased for the Instituto Colon in Guadalajara, calling for $20,000 as our American Board share in the construction of the building — with an annual grant of $2,400 for maintenance of the work.

Property, once confiscated in Sonora Province, is being returned by the government and must now be used effectively for a much-needed church and welfare program if it is to be saved from further confiscation. The sum of $6,000 is needed for this project, together with an annual grant of $1,600 to maintain a program of social and evangelistic work.

Where Civilization Is at Stake

EUROPE needs new faith! And the key to this spiritual reinvigoration is in the hand of the churches. Shall we help?

LESLIE B. MOSS

"Can America help us to throw off our shackles?" asks a European leader in a long letter to the New York *Times* on April 25, 1948.

The belief that members of the underground and resistance movements might take a quick and leading part in reconstruction of European life has been disappointing. The devastation of body and heart was too great. The destruction of normal community action as well as of productive capacity reached farther than we had fathomed.

Dr. J. H. Cockburn of Geneva has written, "We can no longer count on a majority of the people of Europe having an interest in or even a knowledge of the Christian faith — the situation is threatening and the outlook grim; for what is at stake is not only the civilization of Europe, but in the long run, the civilization of the world."

Christians are at least theoretically agreed that the key to spiritual reinvigoration is in the hands of the churches. But the desperate apathy about recovery that has pervaded the European public is so abysmal that there can be no bounce back to normalcy.

For it arises, not alone from the shock of bombs and the savagery of war, but more profoundly from the disembowelling of community existence by the Nazis in their attempt to produce spiritual and cultural anarchy. Added to this has been the enervating struggle, both political and ideological, ever since the war. And on top of these has come a depletion of leadership in church life which has required painstaking and intensive attention.

CHURCHES AT WORK

But, while the situation varies from country to country, the interim since the war has seen no spiritual slump among church leaders. Because of the so-called "iron curtain" some are not as easily accessible for counsel and help as we could wish, but in nearly every land the forces of Protestant and Orthodox Christianity are working at the hard tasks of Christian recovery. And the Christians of Britain, Sweden, Canada, Switzerland and the United States have been sending a steady flow of supplies, from food and clothing to bicycles and paper pulp, with which to fortify the stout hearts and unflagging spirits of European Christians.

Our American propensity for telling others how things should be done

has been held in check throughout this effort to revive the spiritual facility of the churches. The American churches from the beginning have recognized that recovery can come only by the full participation of the people who must recover. It is no kindness to tell them what they need and how they should use it.

In this respect the concept of missionary activity which has grown increasingly in Asia has been a schoolmaster to American churchmen in restraining our activistic impulsiveness. Missions are now recognized as a two-way proposition, in which the younger churches have insights and treasures to contribute to the thesaurus of world Christianity. The churches too are appreciating more and more the restraints and the requirements of ecumenical attitudes and contacts.

Hence our whole effort has been to provide the European churches with those materials, instruments and facilities which would enable them to function on a Christian level amid the troubles and stresses of their reviving community life.

FIVE POINT PROGRAM

The basic requirements may be grouped into five segments which make up a full-orbed program. And the program has been developed, checked and evaluated by the church bodies in Europe.

1. *The training and strengthening of spiritual leadership by direct assistance to personalities.* Pastors and church workers have many urgent needs. Supplementary support is offered by providing food, clothing and medicine. Ministers' homes suffered destruction along with others. Transport has consequences for them in reaching the scattered members of their parishes. So bicycles and cars become essential.

LAY WORKERS

A new and exciting emphasis in the religious life of Europe is the training of lay workers to assume a more active part in the evangelistic and other opportunities confronting the churches. Selected students and other persons are being sent to America and elsewhere to give them the benefit of invigorating change and of fresh personal contacts.

The young people of Europe are an acknowledged priority in the preparation for a sane and rightly stabilized life in days to come. Youth is upset. The once normal channels of training and education no longer seem normal. Tragedy has stalked this generation for years. Political uncertainty is still cancelling legitimate expectations for a settled life. Service here is of incalculable importance.

2. *Provision for the institutional processes through which the churches can serve their members and the community at large,* including schools, orphanages, homes for the aged, hospitals and church buildings. In the first year or so "barrack churches" were in demand. Now, rubble churches are being built in many places at even less cost. Temporary repairs are being made on partly

Our American Board for Foreign Missions and our Congregational Christian Service Committee have been particularly interested in the Protestant Center at le Chambon, Haute Loire, France. Our American Board has sent Howard F. and Mrs. Schomer to le Chambon. Mr. Schomer is the assistant pastor of the village church and an instructor in the College. During the summers of 1946 and 1947, our Service Committee sent young people from the U. S. to help in the building of a prefabricated dormitory and classroom buildings. The pictures show the young people at work in the construction of a building.

damaged buildings. The actual rebuilding is still in the distance.

3. *Measures by which the churches may present their essential message to the communities.* Evangelism is at the core of this. The imperishable gospel of life in Christ must be spoken to all who will hear, for to neglect it is to fail utterly in the process of spiritual rejuvenation. But literature and magazines depend upon paper supplies and practical means for distribution, for spreading information relevant to the Christian program. To overcome such difficulties requires a truly apostolic ingenuity.

4. *The care of impoverished and homeless people,* the spiritual consequences of which both for the giver and the receiver, are immense. Americans continue to place contributed supplies in the hands of c h u r c h agencies for a Christian program that ministers to those in need without regard to race, creed, or political belief.

5. *Services to refugees and dis-*

placed persons, most of whom must be helped where they are in Europe. But many should be cared for and become permanent citizens in this and other lands. We as a nation have been laggard. The immigration and relocation here of those who are finally to be admitted will give us a first hand opportunity to minister to victims of the war.

In all of these ways, and no doubt in others which may later appear, the American churches can assist in bringing the kingdom of God to bear upon the kingdoms of this world. The dimensions of the task are colossal. We have hardly begun to glimpse their size or their fatefulness for the future of mankind. The urgency for a response from the churches to this appeal is no less real and immediate than that for setting up public funds for the European Recovery Program.

The delusive sense of timelessness that prevailed through the early part of this century is gone. The tides of spiritual passion and of brutal conquest are at flood. Christians must enter lavishly and without reserve into the counter-stream of world redemption if the churches are to give strength and leadership which will really affect the outcome. The alarm is being sounded. Let the churches come forth to meet the historic crisis in Christ's name.

Dr. Moss is the executive associate of Church World Service.

Photos by courtesy of the Congregational Christian Service Committee.

Congregational Christian

NEEDS AND OBJECTIVES IN EUROPE

1949 – 1950

Our Congregational Christian program in Europe today is threefold:

1.

A "mission of fellowship" at Le Collège Cévenol, Chambon-sur-Lignon, France, where two of our American Board for Foreign Mission missionaries are stationed;

2.

Grants-in-aid to the Czechoslovakian churches of Congregational Christian affiliation;

3.

Our Congregational Christian Service Committee relief and reconstruction projects in France, Germany and Italy.

Except for the grants-in-aid, these activities will be continued in 1949 and 1950 on the present levels. There are no present plans for expansion.

For Information

American Board for Foreign Missions,

14 Beacon St., Boston, Mass.

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THE UNIT PLAN

The Unit Plan Committee seeks gifts from Congregational Christian Churches and individuals to make possible the continuance of annuities under the Original Plan of the Annuity Fund for Congregational Ministers at their promised maximum of $500 for a minister or $300 for a widow.

Gifts may be sent to your State Unit Plan Committee or to The Unit Plan, 287 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

•

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A Reminder to . . .

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The Church Activities Calendar will be off the press about June first. Be sure your order is in for this valuable help. 32 pages, 11x10 inches. Good size for wall or desk. 35 cents each or 3 for $1.00. Order from Missions Council, 287 Fourth Ave., New York 10, N. Y.

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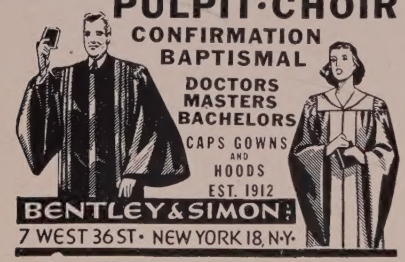

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A Vacation Reminder —

LEST YOU FORGET:

Piedmont College must raise $735,000 before January 1, 1950.

A gift of $5 from every reader of this publication would help greatly.

Will you not include $5 for Piedmont in your vacation budget and send your check today to:

C. L. PERCY
Treasurer
PIEDMONT COLLEGE
Demorest, Georgia

WHAT WILL YOUR PASTOR LIVE ON WHEN HE RETIRES?

Throughout the year we have been urging upon the churches of our fellowship the importance of making more adequate provision for the retirement income of their pastors than can be supplied by the minimum required dues of the Annuity Fund.

We call attention to the recommendation of the Annuity Fund that every church in our fellowship adopt the following vote:

> **VOTED:** ***That this Church pay into the Annuity Fund for Congregational Ministers on behalf of its pastor the following amounts:***
>
> *a. one-half of his net dues which are six per cent of the amount of his salary less credit from Pilgrim Memorial Fund income.*
>
> ***and, in addition,***
>
> *b. additional deposits equivalent to five per cent of his salary.*

It will be of interest to you to know of the response that has been made to this recommendation since it was first publicized a little more than three years ago.

Deposits over and above the required dues (in most cases in the amount recommended by the Annuity Fund) are being made by the following organizations:

General Council	Pension Boards
Board of Home Missions	447 Churches
Council for Social Action	20 State Conferences
Missions Council	15 other organizations

These organizations among them employ approximately one quarter of the active members of the Annuity Fund.

An excellent start has been made but much more must be done before we can assure ourselves that the retirement system for the Congregational Christian ministers is upon an adequate basis.

This matter is discussed at greater length in the pamphlet, "Safe Anchorage," which we will be glad to send upon request.

The Annuity Fund for Congregational Ministers

287 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

Pacific School of Religion
1798 Scenic Ave.
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For further information as to annuity rates to beneficiaries, write to:

WM. F. FRAZIER, *Treasurer*

The Board of Home Missions, 287 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

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